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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 7TH, 2019

**Going from teaching to track is no  
obstacle for Olivia! See page 3.**

**Take a closer look at our 'In  
Business' feature on pages 16 & 17.**

## Biomass plant bosses insist there will be 'no pollution problems'

**BARRY'S bio-  
mass energy plant  
is set to be fully  
operational in the  
coming months.**

Managers of the gas-  
ification plant in Barry

Dock say the plant will  
produce enough green  
energy to power 23,000  
homes – and hope it will  
be fully up and running  
in the early spring.  
They have played  
down fears over noise

and pollution caused by  
the plant and say they  
will abide by environ-  
mental standards set in  
their permit, and that the  
site will employ up to  
20 members of staff –  
mainly local people.

Campaigners say  
Barry Biomass will  
increase air pollution  
– even if it meets indus-  
trial standards.

They are also oppos-  
ing plans for the gasifi-  
cation facility to receive  
a subsidy from Ofgem,  
paid for by energy bill  
payers.

**CONTINUED  
ON PAGE 5**

## Ship-shape and Bristol-fashion



**BARRY Sea Cadets put on  
an impressive show in their  
No1 uniforms for their annual  
inspection by south west area  
officer Commander Nigel  
Morton.**

Also present was local MP Alun  
Cairns and the Mayor of Barry, Janice  
Charles, District Officer Killick and  
many parents. Commander Morton  
was impressed by the experiences that  
cadets had taken advantage of, many  
had been on voyages on Sea Cadet  
training vessels, such as the *TS Jack  
Petchey*.

He commented: "It is great to see  
such a confident group of young

people. I hope that you will take full  
advantage of the opportunities which  
Sea Cadets offer you and continue to  
develop your independence and self  
confidence, while having fun."

Two civilian instructors, Teilo  
Richardson and Nigel Vick, were also  
awarded certificates by Commander  
Morton for long service to the Cadets.

Barry Sea Cadets parade on  
Monday and Thursday evenings. If  
you are interested in joining, contact  
them via the Sea Cadet website or by  
e-mailing [barryseacadets@gmail.com](mailto:barryseacadets@gmail.com).

**Nigel Vick**

## After years of fundraising, DPVC has a new minibus

**RESIDENTS recently turned up to  
celebrate arrival of the new Dinas Powys  
Voluntary Concern (DPVC) minibus,  
after years of fundraising had finally  
paid off.**

**SEE THE FULL STORY ON  
PAGE 7 OF THIS WEEK'S GEM**

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## 'Vale Council gave their full backing to tree planting'

**I** WOULD like to respond to the letter from Keith Lewis, published in The Gem on January 31.

Barry Action for Nature is a group of volunteers who have been working hard to improve the state of nature in Barry. The group has been working closely with the community and Vale Council to plant trees, put up nest boxes and carry out other activities to benefit the town.

Referring to the tree planting that took place on Port Road East on January 26, these were not new trees but a few replacement trees for some of the 700 trees that had not survived the last four years.

I am sure Mr Lewis recalls that the trees were planted in 2014 to commemorate the centenary of the men and women of Barry who did not return from the First World War.

As well as replacing a handful of trees, the group also carried out some maintenance on the existing trees, collected litter and replaced some of the existing tree protectors.

In 2014, before the

trees were planted, the immediate residents were consulted and leafleted on the matter. The Vale Council was also consulted and gave their full backing to the trees being planted. Since then, the council has cut the grass around the outskirts of the area to avoid damaging any of the young saplings. As the trees grow, they will shade out the area underneath and no grass will grow and no strimming will be required.

The trees planted in this area complement the trees that were planted a number of years ago further down Port Road East. It is well known that trees provide a filter from noise and pollution for local residents and in years to come, the homes in this area will benefit from the trees that have been planted.

Therefore the cost involved both now and in the future is minimal and the overall benefit of trees in cutting pollution and adding to a community's wellbeing, far outweighs any potential maintenance costs.

Claire Curtis, Barry

## 'Trees are fine... in their place'

**W**ITH reference to the article 'Action For Nature' (January 24), trees are great in parks and open spaces.

When you have one right outside your front door it's no joke - cuts out your sunlight, it's taller than your house, branches damage your car when they fall, the mess of leaves everywhere blocking the drains - very slippery on the pavement when wet.

Cracking the pavement with the roots, even lifting the slabs. Council don't care, nothing gets done.

Action For Nature should have a tree outside their house.

Alvin Brown, Barry.

**SEE MORE LETTERS  
ON PAGE 18.**

## Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email [editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk)

Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address, contact telephone number. We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

## 'Money from dog waste fines could pay for more bins'

**T**HE discussion around the Vale Council's proposals to create local safe places that has infuriated some of the dog owning community seems to have cooled a little, but the problem of dog mess in our public spaces persists.

While most of those who walk their dogs do take a responsible approach to picking up their dogs' deposits, sadly there are still those who steadfastly refuse to do so.

Some owners just don't bother, and some others seem to think that it's perfectly acceptable to bag the dog mess and 1) leave it suspended from a tree, as is often the case in Hensol Forest, 2) leave the bag just where it was filled or 3)

as can be seen on Picadilly in Llanblethian, neatly piled on a gatepost for someone else to deal with.

It must be made clear to all dog owners that clearing up properly after their dogs is a legal requirement, which means bagging the mess and either depositing it in a public refuse bin, or a dedicated dog mess bin - or simply taking it home. The Vale Council could, if so disposed, make more bins available. There is scant availability of such, for example, in Llanblethian where there are only two and they are fairly close together. Compare this with Pontyclun where, on the short stretch of road between Brynsadler and Pontyclun, there are no fewer than five bins.

Making more bins available

would, no doubt, reduce the dog mess problem significantly.

It's a fair bet that the council will plead poverty on this issue. But if there were some sort of effort made to catch out the current crop of offenders, the money raised from fines might make the supply of bins self-financing. There seems little point in attaching the odd sign to a lamppost reminding owners of their responsibilities; clearly, these are ignored.

So come on, Vale Council - make more bins available, or catch a few offenders and fine them accordingly.

M Hancock,  
Llanblethian.

## 'Proposed plans will leave children with nowhere to play'

**I** AM writing to express serious concern over the Vale Council's support for the local community, specifically green, open space where children play.

I am a resident of Maes y Ffynnon, Bonvilston, an excellent example of post-war development which includes some 24 dwellings and two charming village greens, one of which can be viewed from the A48 and is particularly beautiful during the spring. This village green is rarely played on by children due to its proximity to the busy A48.

The larger and more suited 'village green' (thus named in the council's local development plan of 2006-2011) is sited at the rear of the development and is in an area far better suited for children.

My two sons, aged 11 and three, together with some of the other residents' children, regularly play here.

The presence of this village green to the rear of Maes y Ffynnon is one of the reasons my husband and I chose Bonvilston as a suitable place to raise our children, yet it would appear that the council no longer wishes to acknowledge this precious space as a village

green, since the conservation area was changed in 2010, excluding it and renaming it 'incidental green space', despite it being named as one of the village greens in the former, legally binding, local development plan.

The proposals, although not to scale, show a small proportion of the green to be excavated to provide parking for the visitors to 10 proposed new dwellings. This is misleading to anyone viewing the plans and appears to be a misrepresentation of the parking space which, if measured, takes up half of the width of the green and most of the length. This would render the green unusable as a play

area for children due to the potential damage to cars from the harmless kicking of a ball.

There is great concern over the lack of a community council to both correspond with and acknowledge concerns raised by the residents affected by this plan, which contradicts the Welsh Government's play policy of 2002.

How much more green space must our children sacrifice before the council turns the rural vale into a concrete jungle?

Name and address  
supplied.

## Defibrillators in your area



Balmoral Quays Management, 16 Balmoral Quays, Penarth, CF64 3NS  
Barry Masonic Lodge, Masonic Hall, Broad Street, Barry, CF62 7AT  
Barry Memorial Hall & Theatre, Gladstone Road, Barry, CF62 8NA  
Marco's Café, Promenade, Barry, CF62 5TQ  
The Amelia Trust Farm, Five Mile Lane, CF62 3AS  
Barry Town United AFC, Jenner Park, Barry Road, Barry, CF62 9BG  
Barry West End Club, St Nicholas Road  
Bryn Hafren Comprehensive, Merthyr Dyfan Road, Barry, CF62 9YG  
Castleland Community Centre, Belvedere Crescent, Barry, CF64 4JZ  
Lloyds Bank, 1 Windsor Road, Penarth, CF64 1YR  
Lower Penarth Community Association, Brockhill Way, Penarth, CF64 5QD  
Morrisons Supermarket, Penny Way, Barry, CF63 4BA  
Pen y Garth School, Redland Road, Penarth, CF64 1QN  
Penarth Bowls Club, Rectory Road, CF64 3AN  
Penarth Mini & Junior RFC, Lavernock Road, Penarth, CF64 3QH  
Penarth Pier Pavilion, The Esplanade, Penarth, CF64 3AU  
Penarth Town Council, Paget Rooms, Penarth, CF64 2YG  
The Bay Caravan Park, St Mary's Well Bay Road, Lavernock, CF64 5XS  
Dinas Powys Bowls Club, St Andrews Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4HB  
Select Convenience Store, 27 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL  
Edmondson Arms, 9 Cardiff Road, Cowbridge, CF71 7EP  
The Star Inn, Treoes, CF35 5DL  
Llantwit Major Bowls Club, Recreation Ground, Boverton Rd, Llantwit Major, CF61 1XZ  
Cowbridge Town Hall, High Street, CF71 7DD  
Information supplied by [www.welshhearts.org](http://www.welshhearts.org).

### HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL FEBRUARY 14)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20-25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
07 Thur	07.59	9.5	20.19	9.4
08 Fri	08.34	9.4	20.48	9.3
09 Sat	09.05	9.3	21.18	9.1
10 Sun	09.37	9.0	21.49	8.8
11 Mon	10.11	8.7	22.26	8.5
12 Tues	10.52	8.2	23.12	8.1
13 Wed	11.45	7.9	N/A	N/A
14 Thur	00.14	7.7	12.57	7.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

We abide by the code of practice upheld by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). This contains provisions for issues such as accuracy.

If you have a complaint, write to us at the address below, left, or call Gareth Jamieson on 01446 774484. All complaints will be fully investigated. If you are not satisfied with the outcome, you may wish to contact IPSO, Gate House, 1 Farringdon Street, London EC4M 7LG  
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Tel: 01446 774484 • Fax: 01446 774108

FACEBOOK: GlamorganGEM / TWITTER: gem\_news • GEMSportNews

General Manager: [jan.irving@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:jan.irving@glamorgan-gem.co.uk)

News Submissions: [editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk)

Editorial enquiries: [gareth.jamieson@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:gareth.jamieson@glamorgan-gem.co.uk)

Tim Chapman [tim.chapman@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:tim.chapman@glamorgan-gem.co.uk) / TWITTER @TimGlamorganGEM

Philip Irwin [philip.irwin@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:philip.irwin@glamorgan-gem.co.uk) / TWITTER @PhilipGlamGEM

Andy Johnstone [andy.johnstone@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:andy.johnstone@glamorgan-gem.co.uk)

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Published by: Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL. Printed by TMP Birmingham.





# Going from teaching to track is no obstacle for Olivia!



## OVERCOMING hurdles is no problem for Albert Primary School teacher Miss Olivia Walker.

On January 26 Miss Walker competed in the Welsh Athletics Indoor Championships at Cardiff University in the 60m hurdles race. Recording a time of 8.68 seconds, Miss Walker came second in the race. As the winner of the race was from England she was crowned the new Welsh champion. Miss Walker's parents had travelled all the way from Staffordshire to watch her run.

Miss Walker was obviously delighted and proud to be crowned Welsh champion and we don't think her mum and dad have stopped smiling yet. We held a special assembly on the Monday to celebrate Miss Walker's achievements, and we decided to interview her to discover the secrets of her success.

Q1. What inspired you to take up hurdling? I started off with athletics, and I saw my friends trying out

hurdles. It looked fun so I tried it out. Ever since I was 13 it just caught on.

Q2. What motivated you to keep trying? Training motivated me to push myself, and to keep on going. My dad also taught me to never give up.

Q3. What would you pick, teaching or track? This is a very tough decision, but I would have to say teaching, as I love seeing the children every day. It truly puts a smile on my face.

Q4. And finally, how often do you get injured?

I don't get injured much, because I warm-up properly. Warm-ups are so vitally important. Make sure you warm up! I also visit the chiropractor every month to help with them.

Everyone at Albert Primary School is very proud of Miss Walker and she is a real inspiration for all our children.

Written by Paddy Corrigan (11) and Mira Smith (11), Albert Primary School media monitors.

# Barry woman (22) jailed for taking drugs into prison

**BEFORE taking a quantity of drugs into Parc Prison, Bridgend, a 22-year-old woman textured numerous remarks about the method that was going to be used, Cardiff Crown Court heard, writes AJ SICLUNA.**

Natasha Allt, of Arno Road, Barry, pleaded guilty to two charges of taking drugs into the prison.

She was jailed for eight months.

Prosecutor Harry Baker said the police discovered text messages on her mobile phone involving her humorously describing how she was going to get drugs inside.

When she went to the prison in January, 2018, she told an officer she was not in possession of anything she shouldn't have.

She was searched and found to have

internally a Class B drug and packages of a Class C drug used for opium withdrawal.

"She was very abusive and made threats and said she would head butt the staff if she saw them in the street."

Her solicitor John Lewis, said: "She has always been realistic about a prison sentence. She was given the drugs to take in by another."

He said the authorities had received intelligence and knew what was going on.

Judge Niclas Parry told her: "You have to understand the availability of drugs in prison causes disorder, violence and bullying. These offences cause great public concern."

He said that those who take drugs into prison will go into custody. He added: "You were well paid and you knew what you were doing."

# Appeal for witnesses in attempted murder investigation in Barry

**DETECTIVES investigating an attempted murder are appealing for witnesses to come forward.**

Officers would like to hear from anyone who may have witnessed an assault which took place in North Walk, Barry, shortly after 12.20am on January 23.

Anyone with any information who has not yet spoken with officers is asked to call 101 quoting reference number 1900026978 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Two people have been charged with attempted murder in connection with this incident and will appear at Cardiff Crown Court later this month.

# Colcot clinic to be sold off

**A Barry clinic is set to be sold off as it's in a "poor condition".**

Colcot Clinic in Winston Road, which currently houses health visitors, district nurses and speech therapy staff, could be redeveloped into new homes.

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board agreed to sell off the clinic at its meeting on January 31.

The Vale Council wants to buy the site so nine affordable one-bed apartments could be built there.

Colcot Clinic's existing services are set to be moved to Barry Hospital.

The clinic site is worth £120,000. A health board report says: "The building is similarly in very poor condition and does not offer suitable

accommodation for healthcare services.

"The UHB are currently instigating plans to relocate services away from Colcot Clinic into Barry Hospital.

"This will free up Colcot Clinic for disposal."

Abigail Harris, the health board's executive director of planning, told a board meeting on January 31: "It's a part of our estate we're not terribly proud of.

"It's not in a good condition." The plans are subject to a public consultation.

**Matt Discombe**  
Local democracy reporter

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# 'Penarth traffic scheme proposal quite wrong' says Friends of the Earth

**FRIENDS of the Earth Barry and Vale (FoE) welcomed the dropping of one-way schemes for Plassey Street, a route to Cogan, it has been reported.**

The diversion meant not only more car-miles, but also more queuing to enter Windsor Road via residential streets, and emitting fumes there.

FoE's Max Wallis said: "It's outrageous that the council intended to misuse the £1 million fund earmarked for 'sustainable transport'. The fund was attached to the £100 million Penarth Heights development, so proposing use for a traffic scheme was quite wrong."

The new proposal, intended to return to Cabinet at its February 18 meeting with Cllr Geoff Cox as the responsible Cabinet member, would force a standard design roundabout on the Plassey Street junction.

This is also bad for sustainable travel, believe FoE. Instead, they propose modifications to give a short bus/cycle lane alongside Dingle Park filtering past the roundabout to



Plassey roundabout with traffic queues.

include a bus stop and allow buses to by-pass part of the queuing traffic, seen in the attached amended version of the council's plan.

Pedestrian crossings via traffic islands and cycle-lane connections can be readily built in to the single-lane roundabout, which currently works well for merging traffic in congested conditions.

FoE propose using the sustainable transport fund (totalling £1.26 million) for improvements which include: reopening the tunnel from Cogan station via Tesco to Penarth Haven for pedestrians and cyclists; building a walk/cycleway through the woodland from Hill Terrace to Tesco; a walking route

from Penarth Heights down through the steep woodland to the Oystercatcher; small schemes for pavement improvement; new crossings and bus-stops/shelters; a possible new walk/cycle tunnel from Dingle Park to Cogan, bypassing the narrow rail-bridge, and a walk-cycle path to Dingle Road Station for the level crossing with future metro-trams.

In response, Mike Clogg, Vale of Glamorgan Council Operational Manager for Engineering, Neighbourhood Services and Transport, said: "The Council has shelved plans to trial a one-way system in Plassey Street and reviewed the Penarth Heights Highways and Sustainable Transport Consultation held last summer to better understand local attitudes on this matter. Responses indicate an overwhelming preference for a

realigned roundabout junction at Windsor Road and Plassey Street.

"A revised report proposing this option will now be considered by the Council's Cabinet on February 18. It incorporates the current roundabout and gateway entrance into Penarth alongside safe routes for cyclists and pedestrians. This encourages active travel within this area in line with the requirements for Section 106 funding.

"The suggested bus and cycle lane is ill considered, would not be cost-effective and offers no meaningful improvement to bus journey times given the length of lane achievable. It would be unaffordable within the budget available and cause significant additional harm to the ecology and environment within Dingle Park."



Chris Franks and John Fanshaw of Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern.

## Sixty charities at volunteering fair

**DINAS Powys Voluntary Concern was represented by John Fanshaw, coordinators Judith and Wendy, and Chris Franks at the 'Explore Volunteering Fair'.**

The event was organised by Glamorgan Voluntary Services and around 60 local charities gathered to explain what volunteering opportunities were available. John

Fanshaw said: "We are always keen to recruit more drivers, escorts and office assistance.

"We are thriving as a charity and always need more support. If you are interested please call into the office any morning and speak to either Judith or Wendy. We are located in the Murch Community Centre, Sunnycroft Lane. Call 02920 513700, or info@dpvc.org.uk."

## Asda's £200 donation to Romilly school

**ASDA Barry has made a donation of £200 to Romilly Primary School Barry as part of the store's ongoing commitment to supporting the local community.**

Community Colleague Lynette Griffin handed over the donation last week to Mr Law, the headmaster of the school. The donation was raised from the store's Green Coin Giving Foundation. The money will be used to support the school's

activities through the PTA.

Lynette Griffin said: "We are always really keen to support local charities/good causes and this is one of many ways we see the store helping out members of our community. I am proud to be supporting them. "Anybody who might like to nominate a charity/local good cause for the GCG should get in touch with Lynette Griffin at the Barry store on 01446 728335 ext 222.

Lynette Griffin

## £600k revamp planned for Penarth park

**VIEWS are being sought on plans to replace the Belle Vue Pavilion in Belle Vue Park, Penarth, with a new building.**

The council says the current pavilion is "reaching the end of its physical life" and has launched a consultation over replacing it.

On its website, the Vale Council says: "Belle Vue Park is a small late-Victorian 'Green Flag' park in central Penarth, which benefits from a play area, art works, ornamental flower beds, tree and shrub plantings, a bowling green and associated pavilion. The purpose of this consultation is to capture residents' views on the possible future uses of Belle Vue Pavilion.

"The building has historically solely served

the Bowls Club as a clubhouse with changing facilities, but over the last 15 years or so it has also been used by the Friends of Belle Vue for events and for other activities.

"The council would like to replace the building with a modern, yet sympathetically designed, building appropriate to the surrounding historic environment and conservation area and potentially for multiple users."

The council says the project would be funded by Section 106 'contributions' from developers.

A consultation is being held on the council's website, while a drop-in session is planned at St Augustine's Parish Hall, between 4pm and 6pm on Thursday, January 31.

**Matt Discombe, local democracy reporter**

## Casablanca is coming to Sully Community Cinema

**REGARDED as one of the greatest films, the 1942 masterpiece Casablanca will be presented by Sully Community Cinema at The Old School Community Centre on Wednesday, February 13, just in time for Valentine's Day.**

If you have not seen this film - starring Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, and Claude Rains - then this is a perfect opportunity to do so. Even if you have, it is a film that stands (in fact, in the opinion of The GEM, demands) repeated viewings. A spokesperson for Sully Community Cinema said: "Doors open at 7pm and we will welcome people with free drinks, chocolates and live piano. The film will start at 7.30pm, tickets cost just £4, and partners enter free!"

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### CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG ADRAN 123 (2A) - DEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL 1972 (FEL Y'I DIWYGIWYD) HYSBYSIAD CAEL GWARED A MANNAU AGORED DWY LAIN O DIR YNG NGHEFN 42 A 44 FONMON ROAD, Y RHWS

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn bod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg yn cynnig cael gwared a 2 lain o dir yng nghefn 42 a 44 Fonmon Road, y Rhws sy'n cynnwys man agored cyhoeddus.

Mae cynllun sy'n nodi'r tir y cynnigir cael gwared arno ar gael i'w archwilio yng nghyntedd swyddfeydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Heol Holltwn, Y Barri yn ystod oriau swyddfeydd arferol.

Rhaid cyflwyno gwrthwynebiadau i'r bwriad i gael gwared â'r tir yn ysgrifenedig, gan nodi sail y gwrthwynebiad, a'i gyfeirio at y Swyddog Monitro/Pennaeth y Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfreithiol (gan ddyfynnu'r cyfeirnod C06-3309) yn y cyfeiriad a nodir isod erbyn 5pm dyddiau 21 Chwefror 2019.

Gyda golwg ar Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol (Mynediad i Wybodaeth) 1985 rhoddir gwybod i bersonau sy'n gwrthwynebu'r cynnig fod y Cyngor hwn yn gorfod gwneud unrhyw sylwadau a dderbynnir mewn ymateb i'r cynnig ar gael i'r cyhoedd edrych arnynt.

Dyddiedig hyn 31 diwrnod Ionawr 2019

D. Marles

Swyddog Monitro/Pennaeth y Gwasanaethau Democraidd a Chyfreithiol  
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfeydd Dinesig,  
Heol Holltwn, Y Barri, CF63 4RU



### THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL SECTION 123 (2A) - LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED) NOTICE OF DISPOSAL OF OPEN SPACE TWO PLOTS OF LAND AT REAR OF 42 & 44 FONMON ROAD, RHOOSE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council propose to dispose of 2 plots of land to the rear of 42 & 44 Fonmon Road, Rhoose comprising public open space.

A plan identifying the land proposed to be disposed of is available for inspection in the foyer of the offices of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry during normal office hours.

Objections to the intended disposal must be made in writing, stating the grounds for such objections, and addressed to Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal & Democratic Services (quoting reference C06-3309) at the address stated below by no later than 5pm on Thursday 21st February 2019.

Persons objecting to the proposal are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposal open to public inspection.

Dated this 31 day of January 2019

D. Marles

Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services  
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices  
Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU





# Energy plant bosses insist there will be no pollution problems when site is up and running

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Welsh Government is still to decide whether an Environment Impact Assessment is needed for the plant.

Mark Bull, site manager, said: "We have been issued the environmental permit and intend to comply with everything it asks."

The gasification plant heats, but does not burn, waste wood chippings at above 950C until it becomes a gas called syngas - which is then combusted to produce a high temperature flue gas which passes through a heat recovery system.

That gas is then channelled into a boiler and creates steam, which then drives a turbine generator to produce electricity.

The main potential pollutants from the site are nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, tiny dust particles and acid gases. These pollutants are passed through a pollutant control system using urea, lime and carbon before they come out - the plant says the emissions will meet EU-set limits.

The cleansing process will generate both harmful and non-harmful ash. Both will be taken away in sealed tankers. The non harmful will be incorporated in items such as concrete breeze blocks, while the hazardous ash will be taken to a secure disposal facility.

The operators are aware that protestors use of the term 'incinerator' has caught on and is commonly used. However, they insist the plant uses a different technology to incineration - where waste is burned in a furnace. They point out that there are around 20 similar gasification plants in the UK, and many more in Europe.

Mr Bull said it is "entirely natural" for people to have concerns but he hopes Barry Biomass will be accepted by the community.

He said: "We are really excited that Barry Biomass can finally begin the production of clean electricity. The team has been working hard on-site to get everything ready."

"This will not only benefit people across the country who will be using renewable energy, but also benefit the environment, as it will reduce our reliance on fossil fuels."

"We do understand the concern around potential



emissions from the site, however we want to assure residents and businesses across Barry that all emissions from the plant are rigorously cleaned. This ensures that the emissions are not harmful to people, animals and the environment and meet regulatory limits. We will continue to monitor this.

"As a local business, we are part of the Barry community and proud to be so. As such, we want to operate in a way that benefits everyone."

He added that National Resources Wales (NRW) had placed monitoring devices throughout the plant, with many on the stack that emissions will pass up and through. The NRW devices record measurements constantly, and are available to NRW inspectors at any time.

Barry Biomass, which is owned by a consortium of private investors managed by Aviva Investors, would use waste wood, mainly from building sites, which would otherwise have gone to landfill.

Energy from the site would be sent directly into the local network in Barry. Richard Frearson, from Power Consulting Midlands which built and controls the equipment on site, said: "Because we're generating electricity here, somewhere a coal fire power station doesn't have to generate that electricity."

He also said wood will be diverted away from landfill due to the site, and the power would connect to the local grid, which means less infrastructure.

Noise levels would be kept at four decibels above background noise,



managers of the plant say.

Upgraded 'quieter' equipment, such as £360,000 ultra-low noise emitting fans in the air condenser, have been installed on the site to keep the noise down, the managers say. Sound monitors have also been installed close to the facility to monitor noise levels. Asked about noise, Mr Frearson said people living nearby "can expect to hear nothing. We have already monitored it and made sure it's not going to be there".

He added that, once the plant was running smoothly, it was their intention to "engage with the community" and possibly have open days for visitors.

A spokesman for the Docks Incinerator Action Group, said: "Natural

Resources Wales works on the basis that if the incinerator works up to that limit it's OK, but it's not true. They are adding the pollution to the atmosphere. "They are still adding dangerous emissions to our atmosphere in terms of gases and pollutants."

"We're concerned that their confidence that they can start operating soon suggests they are in the loop, especially with Welsh Government who are refusing to give us any answer to the simple question of whether this is an EIA development. "We will continue pressing for answers to important questions we have raised."

**Matt Discombe** (Local democracy reporter)/Philip Irwin (GEM).

## Oak Field pupils get creative



Oak Field pupils working with artist Jenny Lambert.

AS part of their topic 'Cymru Caru', children from Key Stage 2 at Oak Field Primary School in Barry have been working with artist Jenny Lambert to produce a interpretation of their immediate environment in mixing and applying acrylic paint.

## Mamma Mia! It's Dinas Powys Community Cinema!

'MAMMA MIA! Here We Go Again' (PG) is the next movie at Dinas Powys Community Cinema, on Saturday, February 9. Music by ABBA, of course.

The volunteer-run cinema can be found at the Murchfield Community Centre, Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys (CF64 4QQ). There is a licensed bar,

with ice cream and other refreshments also on sale.

Doors open 6.30pm for a 7pm start, all tickets are £4.50 available on the door, can be purchased in advance from the DPVC office at the rear of the Community Centre (weekday mornings) or online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/murchfieldcommunitycentre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/murchfieldcommunitycentre).

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## Guide Dogs Cymru thank local bus depot after reconnaissance trip helps 'RJ' to plan his next visit to Barry Island

**TRAVELLING** independently on public transport can prove challenging for a person with sight loss.

However, Rich-John Tomeldan (15), is planning regular trips to meet friends at Barry Island after he was granted a personalised tour of a 34-seater bus.

Rich-John, known as RJ, is blind with only a little light perception in one eye. He has been working with Guide Dogs Cymru to increase his independence and mobility. The charity approached Cardiff Bus and was delighted when RJ was invited to the depot to explore a bus with his habilitation specialist, Michelle Green.

Andy Prosser, commercial officer of Cardiff Bus, explained

how much the vehicles cost, where they were made and how the ticketing system worked.

Michelle added: "Andy gave the reasons for the design and layout and RJ was able to practise finding a priority seat, locating a stop button, buying a ticket and getting on and off safely. This was really helpful, because he will be able to find his way around when he gets on a bus next time."

RJ was particularly interested in the on-board audio announcements that make passengers aware of the next stop, something Guide Dogs has campaigned for.

Michelle said: "RJ is aiming for a career in the radio business, so he wanted to know how the announcements work and how they are recorded."



RJ at the Cardiff Bus depot.

## Ramblers say farewell to their four-legged friend

**PENARTH** and District Ramblers are a dog-friendly group, and over the years many dogs have been welcomed on walks and many partnerships forged with 'man's best friend'.

So it is with great sadness the ramblers say farewell to one of their honorary members, Staffordshire bull terrier Jodie, who is known to many of our group and followers of the website and Facebook.

Jodie belonged to Sue's mum, but used to come with Sue on many group walks and although at the beginning she was a little wary of company and somewhat shy, she soon made friends and really enjoyed her outings.

Despite the fact that originally Staffies were bred to be small, fast fighting dogs while remaining people-friendly, they soon became firm and loyal family pets with a particular affection for youngsters and have been voted 'number one dog' in a recent poll.



Jodie the Staffie, who will be missed.

Jodie was a beautiful, strong well-built brindle dog, full of life, intelligent with boundless energy and towards the latter part of her life, enjoyed coming to Cogan to meet and greet people at the start of a walk, when she would have fun chasing after her ball. She will live on in the memories of those who knew and loved her.

On February 10, the Ramblers will meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 12.5-mile moderate walk taking in Caerleon and Newbridge; contact John R on 07484 844 533.

On February 13, the mid-week walk will leave Barry Dock at 9.30am for an 11-mile moderate walk taking in St Lythans and Tinkinswood; contact William on 07528 701952. On February 14, meet at 10am at Beach Road, Newton (CF36 5NG) for a 6.5-mile moderate half day walk taking in Merthyr Mawr dunes, Candleston and Traeth yr Afon; contact Joy on 01446 737131. For up to date information, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com and Facebook. Programmes can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102. **Joy Strangward**

## Lifeboat rescues people near Sully Island

**PENARTH** Lifeboat Station launched both its boats after five people were reported in the water at Sully Island on February 2.

The station was alerted to the emergency by Milford Haven coastguards shortly after 2.30pm. A spokesman said: "With many members of the public looking on in the bright sunshine,



we launched both boats. "On arrival, it was lifeboat assistance. The three people, who were safe and well, were taken back to the shore but a further three were in need of assistance. The three people, who were safe and well, were taken back to the shore but a further three were in need of assistance."

coastguard officers. We would caution against entering the water around Sully Island at any time of year, but especially so in this current spate of cold weather.

"Fortunately, Saturday was a good outcome with some cold and wet casualties, but the outcome could have been much worse if the two had not made it safely across the causeway."

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\* says Rob Evans, Newport





## ‘Sensitive’ access improvements are made to a Cadoxton church

ON February 3, Cadoxton Methodist Church was visited by Barry Town Mayor Cllr Janice Charles, who opened the building project which includes new steps and permanent ramped access into the chapel.

With the creation of the new larger, curved steps, the church managed to integrate ramped access so it enhances the building and worked with architects to ensure that the end result was sensitive to the 156-year-old building.

Stephen Davies, the project manager said: “The access project has been on the table for many years. It’s wonderful to see it finally completed. The project is transformative for us as a church and the

community have really appreciated it, commenting as they have seen the work progressing.”

One person said: “It’s good to see things being done. We do feel that it’s a contribution to the community, as well as a legacy project for the church.”

The project was made possible due to the grant funding contribution from the Welsh Church Act Fund administered by Barry Town Council.

Rev Carole Challis, the church Minister and superintendent Minister of the Vale of Glamorgan circuit, explained: “This is significant for us as a church. It’s made accessing the building less problematic for our members but it’s also a message to our community which says ‘all are welcome.’”

## School does well in Estyn report

IN an Estyn inspection, Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig in Barry has been judged excellent in three of the five areas in which it was assessed and good in the other two.

The school received

the highest rating possible in the categories of wellbeing and attitudes to learning; care, support and guidance and leadership and management, while standards and teaching and learning experiences were given ‘good’ with excellent features.

In the area of wellbeing and attitudes to learning, among other factors the report hailed the close connection pupils and teachers share. It read: “The strength of the working relationships between pupils and staff is an exceptional feature of the school’s work and contributes extensively to the effective learning environment.”

It was also noted that: “... governors’ willingness to challenge the school in order to ensure improvement is a very strong feature.”

Under the section care support and guidance, the report said: “The school is an extremely caring and friendly community that promotes the importance of good behaviour very effectively.”

Headteacher Sian Owen was singled out when it came to leadership and management, with the report stating: “The headteacher provides innovative and robust leadership and sets a clear strategic direction for developing the school. She has very high expectations and is passionate about the community that she serves.”

Barry Men’s Forum meets weekly on Thursdays at 9.45am at Holy Trinity Church, Aberystwyth Crescent and new members are always welcome. For further information, contact Mac Tanner on 01446 743455.

PDGG

## Council’s refurb for the Batts Field play area

THE Vale Council has refurbished Batts Field play area in Barry at a cost of around £50,000.

Based around a ‘jungle’ theme, existing swings have been upgraded and new equipment for younger children installed, including a multi-unit disc spinner, spring-mounted animals and games panels, while the area has also benefitted from resurfacing.

This is the latest in a long list of play areas that have undergone improvement works, with a number of sites across the Vale receiving the same treatment. The total cost of the work was £49,000, with money coming from Section 106 ‘contributions’ secured by the Council as part of nearby developments.

## Luncheon concerts at All Saints Penarth

A NEW season of free luncheon concerts begins at All Saints’ Church, Victoria Square, Penarth next Monday, February 11.

Local photographer and musician Nick Trehan, accompanied by talented guitarist Tom Scott provide the entertainment this month with a repertoire consisting of their own instrumental compositions and songs, and also work by mainstream artists such

as Paul Simon and Tom Waits.

Music at Luncheon concerts at All Saints’ are held monthly on the second Monday. Doors open at 12.30pm and concerts start at 1pm and last around an hour. The audience are invited to bring their lunch along with tea, coffee and cake available to purchase. Free entry but donations accepted towards the church and a charity of the performer’s choice.

More information on [www.allsaintspenarth.org.uk](http://www.allsaintspenarth.org.uk) or email [admin@allsaintspenarth.org.uk](mailto:admin@allsaintspenarth.org.uk)

For the latest news -  
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## Dinas Powys welcomes its new £55,000 minibus

Cllr Steve Thomas (left) the chair of Dinas Powys Community Council and John Fanshaw, chair of Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern, cutting the official ribbon to launch DPVC’s new minibus.

RESIDENTS turned up to celebrate the arrival of the new Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern (DPVC) minibus, after years of fundraising had finally paid off.

Apart from a generous grant from the community council, all the funds were raised locally.

The minibus has been constructed to accommodate people with mobility issues.

Cllr Steve Thomas, the chair of Dinas Powys Community Council, officially ‘launched’ the minibus, and people were keen have a look inside the vehicle.

More than 70 DPVC trustees, drivers, escorts, transport users, volunteers and supporters attended Murchfield Community Centre for the launch and to take afternoon tea.



John Fanshaw, the chair of Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern, based at the centre, said: “Throughout its long and distinguished existence, community transport to local supermarkets and events has been at the heart of DPVC and the minibus/ambulance is regarded with affection by so many residents and is a reminder of the services DPVC can offer.”

“A campaign to replace the minibus, estimated to cost over £55,000, was successfully launched. The choice of vehicle and its seating configuration reflects the observations of drivers, escorts and users.”



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# AM offers 'A Welcome to Wales'

**L**AUNCHING the 'Nation of Sanctuary - Refugees and Asylum Seeker Plan' last week formed part of my new ministerial duties.

I was pleased to make a statement in the Senedd to outline ways in which we can meet the Welsh Government's ambition of making Wales a nation of sanctuary for all who choose to make it their home. This requires action across the range of needs facing refugees including access to housing, work, language classes, health and education.

The plan has been endorsed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and includes actions to prevent vulnerable individuals from being exploited and safeguarding unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

I have been delighted to welcome Syrian refugees to the Vale with their families, helping to open up opportunities in all these areas of their lives as they seek to make a contribution with the skills they bring, as farmers, carpenters, health care workers and teachers. Croeso Llantwit is backing the



**Assembly Notes  
by Vale AM  
JANE HUTT**

Community Sponsorship scheme successful across Wales to welcome a refugee into the community, and we will soon be welcoming the arrival of the 1,000th Syrian refugee from that war torn country to Wales.

As Health Minister at the start of the Assembly nearly 20 years ago, I helped foster a Refugee Doctors scheme funding language and professional accreditation courses, resulting in a large number of doctors receiving the GMC (General Medical Council) approval and now all working in the NHS in Wales and across the UK.

The launch of the Refugee and Asylum Seeker Plan followed National Holocaust

Memorial Day which we marked in the Senedd with a cross party vigil, hearing from a Holocaust survivor. I was particularly proud of Barry sixth form students studying at Whitmore High School, Seren Ewington and Cain Gannon, who introduced the Holocaust survivor Henri Obstfeld to the Assembly.

The students made powerful and moving speeches about their involvement in the Holocaust Educational Trust and the impact this had on their thinking and learning about the Holocaust.

This was followed by the launch of an exhibition based on the Holocaust theme 'Torn from Home' at Art Central on January 26 with the work of Welsh sculptor Alison Lochhead and Nerea Martinez (painting and drawing) on display. This exhibition is well worth a visit at the Barry Library Art Central Gallery in King Square, which has hosted the work of many fine artists over the years. The exhibition depicts the horrors of the Holocaust and the ongoing plight of refugees and asylum seekers across the work and is open until March 2.

I had the privilege of

meeting Vale Refugee Champion Robin Jenkins to hear about his work with refugees in the Mediterranean, featured on the news over Christmas, aboard the Dutch vessel *Sea Watch* 3 rescuing refugees and seeking a safe haven for them and hope for the future.

Robin has been undertaking rescue work and volunteering on lifeboats since his time at Atlantic College, where the rigid hulled inflatable lifeboat was invented and is now used to save lives across the world.

He has now set up the Atlantic Pacific International Boat Rescue project and is training volunteers who take part in rescue missions taking place across the world, including rescue from tsunami, as well as migration.

Robin has shown great courage and dedication supporting people in the greatest need and is an example to us all. But there is much we can do at home on our doorstep and in the Vale and in Wales, for us to follow our ambition to be a Nation of Sanctuary.



## Sorooptimists receive long service awards

**THREE long serving members of Sorooptimists International Barry and District were presented with long service awards by president Mary Tonebene.**

Jackie Memory, a member for 30 years, Dr Val Williams, for 35 years and Anne James for 45 years each received an award.

All three are past presidents and have given outstanding service to Sorooptimists and the local community, giving their time and skills to raise funds for



local and international charities.

Sorooptimists is an international and local movement and to learn

more about their work in the community, go to [sigi.org/barry-and-district/](http://sigi.org/barry-and-district/).

## £240 fine for displaying incorrect food hygiene rating

**A BARRY restaurateur has been fined for displaying an incorrect food hygiene rating on his former eatery's website, following a successful prosecution by the Vale Council through Shared Regulatory Services.**

Ali Deveci, who previously operated Izmir Greek and Turkish restaurant on Broad Street in Barry, claimed to have a food hygiene rating of five when its actual score was in fact one. This happened in October 2017 and again five months later. Mr Deveci plead guilty to two offences under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008 during a recent hearing at Cardiff Magistrates Court.

He was fined £240, £120 for each offence, ordered to pay costs of £120 and a victim surcharge of £30. Mr Deveci confirmed to the court that he is no longer involved with the business.

Cllr Hunter Jarvie, Vale Council Cabinet Member for Regulatory and Legal Services, said: "Hygiene ratings are not just window stickers, they refer to the standard of hygiene within a business and are an important reference for customers. "Food outlets need to satisfy a range of specific criteria to gain a rating of five. This requires commitment to good practice and there is no shortcut to achieving this. Mr Deveci deliberately misled people about his business' hygiene rating by claiming to have one vastly superior to what was actually the case.

"I hope this prosecution sends out a clear message that hygiene ratings are important assessments of food outlets and anyone found to be doctoring them will face serious consequences."

Shared Regulatory Services is a partnership between Bridgend, Cardiff and the Vale Councils which brings together the Environmental Health, Trading Standards and Licensing functions of the three local authorities.

## Bereavement café to bring people together

**A GROUP for bereaved people whose loved ones received support from Marie Curie in the Vale will hold its latest session this week.**

The Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale Hospice's Family Support Team is launching the first Bereavement Café at its Bridgeman Road hospice on Friday, February 15. Running from 10am to noon, the café will run on every third Friday of the month.

The café is open to those who are known to have had support or whose family have received support from the organisation. To find out more about the Bereavement Café, call the Marie Curie Hospice on 029 2042 600 and ask to speak to the Family Support Team.

## Tenth 'Coming of Light' event held



**ART4U has thanked the people who attended the 10th 'Coming of Light' celebration.**

Organiser Glyn Pooley said: "We were blessed with a beautiful evening that created a wonderful sunset at the Knap in Barry. Thanks go to

Laura Bradshaw and the Porthkerry Community Choir who sang uplifting songs

"Lovely poems were shared by Fran Smith and Bel Blue. Messages of hope were attached to the bridge and the evening drew to a magical close. It was truly memorable."

## Meet your local officers

**WHY not come along to Gibbonsdown 'Cuppa with a Copper' held every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close between 10am and 12 noon?**

Meet your local officer at The Square, Llandough Hospital, Penlan Road, Llandough Penarth, on Thursday, February 7 between 10am and 4pm.

Meet Your Local Officers at Penarth Library on Thursday, February 7 between 11am and 12 noon.

A police surgery will be held at Llantwit Major Library on Tuesday, February 12 between 10.30am and 11.30am.

A 'coffee and chat' will be held at the Victoria Inn, Singingstone, on February 19 at 11am.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life but are unable to attend a meeting, contact 101 for non emergencies or log onto: [www.south-wales.police.uk](http://www.south-wales.police.uk) where you will find contact details for your local PCSO and you can contact them directly for non emergency matters.

## Banner day for groups as new service pops up

**GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) is offering a tailor made pop-up banner design service to organisations, which complements its existing print and design service.**

GVS prides itself on knowing its service users extremely well, so can help with content as well as managing the entire process including the design, wording and working with the print company.

GVS has produced pop-up banners for Wick Youth Club, Colwinston Youth Club and most recently, Barry

Beavers Disabled Swimming Club. Chris Economides from Barry Beavers said: "The service provided by GVS was fantastic, we highly recommend it. The banners will highlight the work we do and we look forward to using them at GVS' Big Volunteering Fayre on January 23 at the Memo Arts Centre, Barry where we are looking to recruit volunteers for our swimming club."

If you would like information on pop-up banners, contact Mark Stillman, Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) on 01446 741706.

## The wonders of Wenvoe for Valeways walkers

**THE forecasting of snow, ice and wind by Valeways president Derek Brockway did not deter 10 Valeways walkers from meeting John at the Horse and Jockey for a seven-mile morning walk.**

Setting off in overcast, dry conditions with frost on the ground, they walked towards Wenvoe Quarries before passing Wenvoe Wood and heading for Burdonshill.

The track was flooded in a couple of places but easy diversions were available and the group eventually arrived at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club. Here a notice invited funeral guests to head left, so the walkers went right; along a lane passing Goldsland and eventually reaching New Wallace. Who was Wallace? No one knows – perhaps there a GEM reader who can tell us?

The group did not go that far and turned north across fields watching a fox treading carefully through the frost, to arrive at St Lythans Burial Chamber. It is said that on Midsummer's Eve, the capstone rises and spins around with the supporting stones heading to the river for a wash, while a headless horseman gallops around the field.

The walkers took the lane past Dyffryn Gardens to turn right across fields to arrive at Coed Nant Brân before heading to Vianshill and the Downs.

An easy walk down the track past Wenvoe TV mast brought them back to the Horse and Jockey for welcome food and drink.

Many thanks to Heather at the pub for the hospitality and the use of the car park.

**John Treby**





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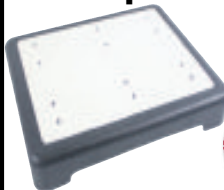


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# Job losses at Ford – council to work with response team

**THE leader of Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) has said the local authority is working closely with the Welsh Government to assemble a specialist response team to help support Ford employees affected by redundancy.**

The first staff to lose their jobs at the engine plant in Bridgend will leave by the end of this year.

The number due to be offered voluntary redundancy is thought to be around 370.

In a statement, BCBC leader Cllr Huw David said: "As the Ford Bridgend Engine Plant is such a major local employer, we are obviously concerned about the livelihoods of its

staff.

"We're working closely with Welsh Government on proposals for assembling a specialist response team to stand ready to support the employees who may be affected."

Speaking at a full council meeting on January 23, Cllr David said he had contacted senior managers at the plant to offer assistance.

He said the specialist response team could be pressed into service in the event that significant redundancies become unavoidable, adding the council would be calling on organisations such as Business Wales, Careers Wales, the Department of Work and Pensions, Jobcentre Plus and more to join it.

**Liz Bradford**  
Local democracy reporter

# Farmers fill the air with glorious smells to celebrate Farmhouse breakfast week

**A WARM welcome and mouth-watering smells greeted those who joined the Glamorgan breakfast functions, which were organised as part of the FUW's 'Farmhouse Breakfast Week' campaign (January 21-27).**

The Glamorgan events were held on January 21 at Cwm Farm Shop, Treorchy and January 25 at Town Hall, Cowbridge along with a joint event with FUW Gwent on January 24 at The Beech Tree Hotel, Ystrad Mynach.

FUW Glamorgan CEO Rachel Saunders said: "It was about showcasing the most important meal of the day in a bid to raise awareness of the health and nutritional benefits of breakfast, and the huge variety of top quality farm produce available in Wales – ranging from bacon, sausages and eggs



to speciality dairy products, breads and cereals.

"We were able to promote local producers with the assistance of AGORA, which is a new project providing support to new and small producers in this area.

"We loved having everyone there and I thank all those who supported us this year, either by cooking, sponsoring produce or helping us raise money for our worthy charities."

The breakfasts raised a fantastic amount of money for the FUW president's charity appeal – a total of £600 – with all the proceeds being split

between Alzheimer's Society Cymru and Farming Community Network.

"It was great to have members and friends of the Union coming together, being a part of what we do, and sharing their thoughts and worries about the state of the industry, telling us their stories and helping us to understand how we can help each other. What better way to do that than around a table where we share great food and have a cup of tea. I'm already looking forward to next year's breakfast events," added Rachel Saunders.

AD



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For more information, visit [www.dogstrust.org.uk](http://www.dogstrust.org.uk)

## ADVERTORIAL

# Charity's campaign to help life limited children - simply by making a Will

**A children's hospice has teamed up with solicitors across south Wales to offer a free Will-writing service.**

From February 18 until March 3, Tŷ Hafan's Write a Will campaign will have local solicitors waive their standard fee for helping prepare a Will for clients, in return for a small donation to the charity.

Amber Howells, fundraising executive for Individual Giving at Tŷ Hafan, said: "A Will is the only way to give your peace of mind and ensure your wishes will be honoured as you intend."

"The Will writing service will be provided by your chosen solicitor for a suggested donation of £65 for a Simple Will or £75 for Mirror Wills. There will also be an option of leaving a gift



to Tŷ Hafan to help the charity continue providing care and support to families who need it.

Amber added: "All our services at the hospice are provided to families free and one-fifth of these services are funded thanks to gifts in Wills."

"By taking part in our Write a Will campaign,

you'll not only be securing your wishes by getting a professionally drawn up document, you'll also be helping us to provide comfort and care to life-limited children in Wales."

For more information about the Write a Will campaign, visit [www.tyhafan.org/writeawill](http://www.tyhafan.org/writeawill) or call 02920 532 255.

## News in brief

**Valentine cake sale**  
*Friends of Penarth Library will hold a Valentine Cake Sale on Saturday, February 9 at the library in Stanwell Road between 10am and 1pm. Local designer Mari Worth will be running a free children's craft session at the same time.*

**Rhoose Community Cinema**  
*Nominated for eight Oscars, the fourth remake of A Star is Born (15) will be screened at Rhoose Community Cinema on February 16; doors open at 6.45pm. Licensed bar; tickets (£5), available on the night. Call Jo on 07986 907151 for further information.*

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## Depleted police panel fails in bid to veto police council tax rise

**A controversial 10 per cent hike in the amount council taxpayers in south Wales contribute to policing is set to go ahead – despite members of the police and crime panel refusing to back it.**

Members of the panel, which scrutinises South Wales Police's commissioner Alun Michael, wanted a lower increase than the one proposed by the force.

However as only seven of the 11 members of the panel were at the meeting in Merthyr Tydfil today (Tuesday, January 29), the panel's solicitor Simon Jones said there were not enough members to officially veto the rise.

The panel will write to the commissioner explaining their decision and will ask him to come back with a lower increase.

However in a press release, the force said it would go ahead with the council tax increase for 2019/2020.

The precept charged by South Wales Police is added to the council tax bills in all the areas covered by the force, which includes Cardiff, Swansea, Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr.

A spokesperson for the force said the 10.3 per cent rise amounts to an extra £24 per year for someone living in a band D property – a rise of 46p a week.

South Wales Police will have to make over £7 million of savings next year, having already found £51 million since 2011/2012.

Alun Michael told

members of the panel that during the consultation on the South Wales Police precept this year, more than 1,600 people responded, compared to just 20 last year.

He said the majority (70 per cent) of those who responded said that they were willing to pay more for their policing.

Peter Curran, treasurer to the crime commissioner, said that the force's revenue budget had been cut by 31 per cent since 2011/2012 and that the capital budget stands at £800,000, which he called "derisory" in terms of the investment requirement.

He said: "The funding formula is archaic, out of date and in major need of reform" adding that it essentially costs South Wales Police £18 million a year.

He added that any changes to the formula would not be felt until 2021 and that the force still doesn't receive capital city funding.

Mr Curran added that the core grant is equivalent to less than flat cash because pay awards, the pension gap and inflation.

He said that a £3 a month rise on Band D would give the force headroom to invest into front line policing as the numbers are currently below 3,000 officers.

Omar Hussain, the force's chief finance officer said the force provides a "high quality service" and has delivered £0.5 billion worth of "less harm" to south Wales.

He added that most households (68 per cent) are below Band D so the burden would be falling less on these households and is therefore a progressive tax.

Chief Constable Matt Jukes highlighted the increasing demand the force is facing with policing rugby internationals, dealing with homelessness and begging, roads and domestic abuse amongst many other things.

He said: "The demands are significant. I am really proud of where we are in terms of delivering quality of service."

"We must answer 999 calls and deal with victims and deliver justice for them."

He said the force is among the best in England and Wales for taking action but that the risks and threats are growing in the most complex areas.

Mr Michael said: "It is a matter of pride that performance is so good when we have taken £51 million out."

He added: "I don't believe I can recommend anything lower than that (10.3 per cent). I don't believe we would be able to maintain the safety of the people of south Wales."

"I believe it is the right balance. It doesn't come without deep thought and deliberation and a great deal of discussion."

He said he believed that it would be "irresponsible" not to increase the precept even if he resented it because of their duty to keep people safe.

He said: "There has been a transfer of responsibility from central government to local tax payers."

**Anthony Lewis**  
Local democracy reporter

## 'Reports of robbery, stalking, and harassment rise by 19 per cent in area' says ONS

**THE Office of National Statistics (ONS) has released the latest crime statistics for the 12 months to September 2018, it is reported.**

The general rise in figures reflects the UK trend, which remains largely attributed to greater public confidence in reporting crime.

While South Wales Police has recorded an increase of 5 per cent, it is below the national average of 8 per cent.

Reports of robbery in the region has risen by 19 per cent, and stalking and harassment also rose by 19 per cent. However, vehicle offences and burglary in the region have fallen by 7 per cent and 3 per cent respectively.

South Wales Police, however, does recognise and accept the Office of National Statistics' (ONS) view that in some areas there has been a genuine increase in crime.

Alun Michael, Police and Crime Commissioner for south Wales said: "We are currently facing the challenge of the increased impact of 'County Lines' and the exploitation of children and vulnerable adults by big city gangs who follow a nasty and targeted business model. Some specific knife crime and other

offences have been associated with that form of criminal activity and I'm happy to endorse the successful approach taken by the Chief Constable and police leaders across south Wales."

"On the other hand, the longer term figures show that the level of public experience of violence, despite the recent experience, is less than it was a few years ago. Even more importantly, there is a continuing convergence between the experience of the public and what is reported to the police in south Wales. That is very encouraging, because we face real financial challenges and have to do more with less, so being close to the experience of the public and the needs of victims is absolutely crucial."

"Victims are at the heart of all we do – this has been a priority for South Wales Police for some years now. Our approach is to actively encourage people to come forward and report crimes; that continues to be reflected in these increases in reported crimes."

"In line with other forces, we attribute much of the continued rise in figures to the change in recording methods, which occurred in 2014. However, we recognise that there has been a genuine rise in some crime categories so we

remain committed to working closely with a range of partner agencies, including those in the health, local government, education and the voluntary sectors, to prevent, detect and reduce crime."

Deputy Chief Constable Richard Lewis of South Wales Police added: "We continue to experience a rise in demand in both emergency 999 calls and non-emergency 101 calls – a large proportion of these are not crime related. This rise in calls, together with an increase in the number of crimes being reported, means there is a growth in demand being placed on the force."

"We continue to maintain the quality of our response in increasingly difficult financial circumstances and are seeking to utilise technology to support our front-line officers in improving their capability and capacity to deal with an ever more complex environment."

"It is good to see the number of burglaries continuing to fall and we recently carried out a large operation targeting active criminals who commit burglary across the region. That was a great success, with a series of excellent arrests and the recovery of a significant amount of property and cash."

"We continue to

actively work with vulnerable victims of all crime and remain committed to increasing levels of reporting specifically in relation to domestic abuse, stalking and harassment and, sexual offences and when those victims do come forward, we follow up with support and investigation."

"However, crime is only a part of what we deal with and there are many other challenges we face, including responding to and caring for those people who have mental ill health and are in crisis, vulnerable missing people and children and other hidden harms which we, as the police service, respond to and manage on a daily basis and which do not appear within the crime figures."

"None of these areas of demand are responded to in isolation, and we are committed to continually improving every area of our work to ensure we provide the

best possible service for the communities of south Wales.

"We continue to be extremely confident in the integrity of our recording process, being one of only a few forces graded as 'Good' by HMICFRS in accurately capturing and recording all reports that come into the force."

"We are focussing our operational activity and deployments where they are needed the most; particularly in response to an increasing tendency for some to carry knives and continuing to target those crimes which particularly affect the vulnerable in our communities and we are already seeing the positive effects of this."

*The GEM asked for further statistics on, for example, reports of hate crime. No response was received.*

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**HOMELESS charity Emmaus South Wales will be carrying out 'Solidarity Nights' to support local street homeless people and need donations to**

**help as many as possible.**

The charity needs donations of the following items: tents, sleeping bags, blankets, miniature toiletries, sanitary products, hats, scarves and gloves, rucksacks, waterproof jackets and trousers.

The items can be donated to local Emmaus shops and should be labelled 'Solidarity'.

If you know someone who is homeless and would benefit from a safe home and meaningful work opportunities, contact Emmaus by email [community@emmausouthwales.org.uk](mailto:community@emmausouthwales.org.uk) or call 01656 750829.

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# Out & About with The GEM

## McCarthy and Grant exceptional in Can You Ever Forgive Me?...

**H**AVING developed her reputation for loud-mouthed comedy, it was nice to see Melissa McCarthy change pace a little for 2014's comedy-drama *Can You Ever Forgive Me?*

Having returned to comedy with the likes of *Ghostbusters*, *Spy* and *Life Of The Party*, McCarthy dips her toe yet again into dramatic waters with *Can You Ever Forgive Me?*

Based on real events, she plays Lee Israel, a struggling writer who finds herself pursuing a path as a forger, writing letters purportedly from literary figures and obtaining large sums of money for them.

Assisted by her new-found friend Jack (Richard E Grant), all seems well until Lee's delicate house of cards comes tumbling down around her...

While the title of this film could be seen as Melissa McCarthy's mea culpa for making audiences sit through the atrocious *The Boss*, *Can You Ever Forgive Me?* is brave new territory for the actress, a film that doesn't rely on her brand of comedy, rather her acting ability.

It proves to be a hugely successful one, the story a compelling portrait of a person who finds comfort and happiness impersonating snapshots of other people's lives.

It highlights just how good an actress Melissa McCarthy can be, given the right material. Israel is a writer of biographies who has fallen out of step with the literary world, an individual whose inability to forge relationships with people, both personal and professional, is her undoing.

She falls into forgery quite by accident, yet takes a form of solace from reality



SCREEN TALK with GARETH JAMIESON

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through them, aping the personalities of the likes of Dorothy Parker and Noel Coward, the risk and reward of what she's doing, as she states at one point, making her feel more alive, and creatively sated, than ever.

McCarthy's performance is wonderful, certainly one that has roots in her particular brand of comedy, yet also one that is incredibly touching. While Israel isn't overly sympathetic (her self-destructive tendencies best highlighted in her relationship with a bookshop owner played gently by Dolly Wells), McCarthy's delicately drawn turn allows us to empathise and sympathise with her.

She is (un)ably assisted by Richard E Grant's hilarious Jack, a man who shares a kinship with Israel. Both of them are outsiders, neither of them seemingly with any real friends so they fall in with one another, forming an odd couple relationship that pushes and pulls brilliantly. Grant takes great delight in delivering a role with real flair

and substance, the character sketched in a similar light to Israel, and Grant matches McCarthy's ability to create empathy without softening the edges of the character.

Marielle Heller showed with her debut film *The Diary of a Teenage Girl* a capacity for grounded, engaging work, and the same applies here. There is nothing flashy about the direction, but she shows a strong grasp of the material, keeps the tone light but dramatic, and allows the story and the performances to control the film.

*Can You Ever Forgive Me?* is, ultimately, something of a triumphant film even given the subject matter, one that in other hands may have been skewed heavily towards the forgery aspect.

But to do that would lose the human through line of these characters whose shady dealings are, in fact, a way for them to exist in the world and overcome their loneliness – and it's that element, brought to the fore, that makes this such a wonderful piece of work.

**VERDICT:** An intriguing story brought to vivid life thanks to the incredible central performances of Richard E Grant and Melissa McCarthy, *Can You Ever Forgive Me?* is a tremendous film. A portrait of loneliness and of outsiders trying to make their way in the world, Marielle Heller's subtle yet strong direction helps make this a wholly satisfying viewing experience. **Highly recommended.**

**SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED:** *Catch Me If You Can* (2002), *The Diary of a Teenage Girl* (2015).

## Feared by the bad, loved by the good – Players put on wonderful pantomime!



**ROBIN Hood and the Babes in the Wood** came to Colwinston Players put on its 14th pantomime.

There were three evening performances and one matinee. In true panto style, there were goodies and baddies, extravagant costumes, dancing, singing and a wedding in the finale.

Martin Driscoll excelled as the dame with his colourful outfits, courtesy of the costume department led by Liz Stone.

His singing was superb, especially his Elvis impression and his striptease was awesome.

Sue McKinnon as the nasty sheriff and sidekick Denis played by Julie Davies gave an evil performance, but they both repented in the end. The Babes (Georgie Griffiths and Phoebe Cooke) were excellent in their roles as were all the young, and not so young, merry men, dancers, guards, chorus and rabbits! Robin Hood (Jo Foxall) and Marion (Hannah Miles) played their parts with gusto and lived happily ever after.

Director Julie Lloyd, supported by a back stage and bar crew of more than 30 helpers, once again made sure that this annual event entertained the village with a very professional performance.

All the money raised from ticket sales and performance raffles will be split between the Players, Marie Curie and Bro Morgannwg Baby Loss. Congratulations must go to each and every one of the cast, crew and thanks to all the villagers who supported this wonderful event.

AS

## Exhibition is dispelling winter and inspiring spring!



**ARTIST Lesley Dearn** launched her new exhibition, 'Of Petals and Sky', at The Old Hall, Cowbridge Community College on February 6.

Running until March 5, her exhibition has its essence in the effects of light. Large impressionistic florals share the walls with striking seascapes inspired by Lesley's walks along the Glamorgan and Pembrokeshire coast paths.

Complementing the formal show, Lesley's florals are also dispelling the gloom of winter on Cowbridge High Street – local florists and interior design shops are showing pictures for the duration of her show.

For more information, visit Lesley's website at: [www.lesleydearn.co.uk](http://www.lesleydearn.co.uk).

## What's on and where in your area

**Cowbridge Art Society**  
ON Thursday, February 7 there will be a watercolour demonstration by local artist, teacher and author Peter Cronin ([www.petercronin.org](http://www.petercronin.org)).

Peter is also a member of The Royal Society Of Marine Artists, the Royal Watercolour Society of Wales and the Pure Watercolour Society. On February 14, there is a demonstration of mixed media techniques involving acrylic and modelling paste by Jude Lowery.

CAS welcomes artists of any level, and also non-artists who would like to see demonstrations of various art techniques or attend illustrated lectures on art topics. There is also an annual calendar and art competition and a number of social events.

The group meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm-9pm) and occasional visitors (small fee) and new members are most welcome. For details of the society's programme and activities collect a programme from the Old Hall, see [www.facebook.com/cowbridgeartsociety](http://www.facebook.com/cowbridgeartsociety) or Instagram #cowbridgeartsociety.

**Pencoed Library**  
A HARRY Potter book night takes place at Pencoed Library on Thursday, February 7 at 4.30pm; all ages welcome for an hour of wizarding fun.

Other events at the library are: Learn Direct every Monday 9.30am-12.30pm; Bridges into Work every Tuesday 9.30am-12pm; Digital Drop-In every Tuesday from 2pm-5pm; Bounce and Rhyme every Thursday, 2pm; Makerspace every

Saturday 10.30pm-11.30pm; Storytime and Craft every Saturday 12pm-1pm; Adult Crafternoon every other Friday from 2pm; Action on Hearing Loss, third Monday of each month 2pm-4pm; Philosophy Group, first Tuesday of each month from 4pm-5pm; Teen Reading Group, second Tuesday of each month 4pm-5pm.

**Jane Hutt surgery**  
JANE Hutt AM will hold an advice surgery at the CAB offices in Barry, 119 Broad Street (CF62 7TZ) on Friday, February 8 from 4.30pm-5.30pm.

No appointment necessary.

**Repair Cafe**  
A REPAIR Cafe takes place on Saturday, February 9 at Bethel Church Hall, Llantwit Major, from 10am to noon.

Volunteers will be attempting to repair small portable household items, including IT equipment, bicycles and fabric repairs. There will also be teas/coffees and cake available; all welcome.

**Valeways guided walks**  
ON Sunday, February 10, Around the Bay (with no muddy boots!); meet at Pont y Werin footbridge on Marconi Avenue, Penarth at 2pm.

On Monday, February 11 at 11am, meet at the railway station car park in Llantwit Major for a stroll around the Llantwit lanes.

On Wednesday, February 13, the Coffee Shop Strollers of Cosmeston meet outside the visitor centre at Cosmeston at 10.30am. The same day at 2.30pm, the Coffee Shop Strollers of Llantwit Major meet at the town hall car park.

On Friday, February 15, walk to Llangan and back the long way; meet at The Red Fox, Penllyn (CF71 7RQ) at 10am.

**Six Nations at the Memo**  
THE Memo Arts Centre will be showing all of Wales' Six Nations games on the big cinema screen and will also be showing *Bohemian Rhapsody Sing-Along* on Thursday, February 7.

Further information and tickets from [www.memoartscentre.co.uk](http://www.memoartscentre.co.uk) or contact the box office on 01446 738622.

**Quilters meet**  
GLAMORGAN Quilters will next meet on Saturday, February 9 at Ystradowen village hall from 10am to 3pm. If you would like to learn how to sew or quilt, why not call in as a visitor (£5 charge) and see what it's all about.

This month, the group will be joined by Red House Quilting, who will be selling fabric and quilting accessories; all welcome to the Red House pop-up shop at the hall.

**Family history**  
THE next meeting of the Bridgend branch of the Glamorgan Family History Society meets at The Len Evans Centre off Heol Persondy, Aberkenfig, CF32 9RW on Monday, February 18 starting at 7.30pm.

Basil George will talk on the George family name, society and Merthyr Mawr Estate; everyone welcome.

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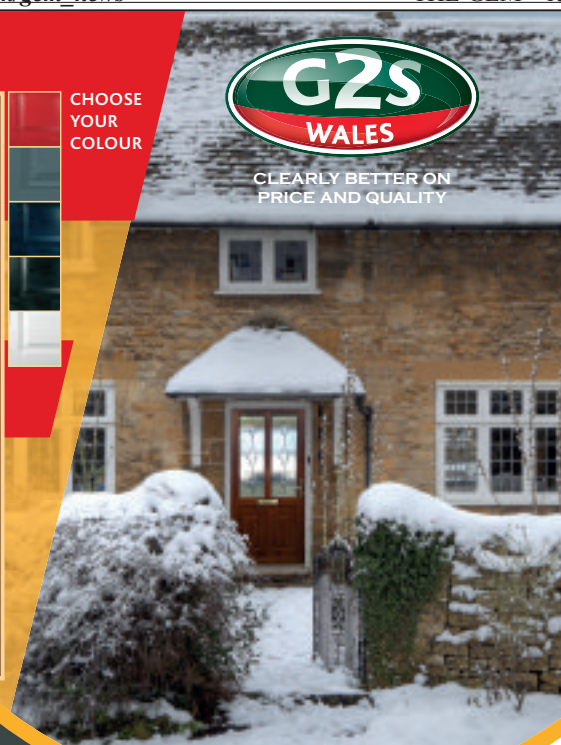
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# IN BUSINESS ADVERTISING/ADVERTORIAL FEATURE IN BUSINESS LOCAL NEEDS, LOCAL SERVICES

## Hopkins Law expands again!

**HOPKINS** Law, an independent boutique law firm with offices in Cowbridge, Cardiff and Chepstow continues its growth with the appointment of another consultant solicitor, **Mari Knowles**.

Highly recommended by so many of her clients, Mari specialises in landlord and tenant matters, both residential and commercial. Mari's analytical skills and attention to detail ensures she offers clients the best possible advice and service.

Landlord and tenant laws are continually evolving, and Mari is heavily involved with those changes. Mari regularly attends the All Parliamentary Party Group on Leasehold Reform, a group of cross-party MPs interested in seeing changes to leasehold law. Mari is also involved with the Law Commission's ongoing leasehold reforms. Having grown up and worked in Brighton for 10 years, Mari set up her

own practice, working across the south east and London.

Liane Farthing, co-director and head of Property said: "Mari's appointment augments our aim to provide our clients with the legal services they or their family may need over their lifetime, delivered in a convenient way with high levels of professional expertise. Mari's appointment is evidence of this vision."

Kerry Mordey, co-director and head of Family, added: "Mari joins our team of talented lawyers who continually provide our clients with the depth of knowledge, insight and high level of service that clients now quite rightly expect. We are delighted to welcome Mari to Hopkins Law."

Contact Hopkins Law for Landlord and Tenant, Property, Family and Elderly client matters: call 02920 395888 or enquiries@hopkinslawltd.com.

## Reiki treatments – new on Barry High Street

**NEW year, new you? It's February, but it's never too late to incorporate self-care and 'me time' into your busy schedule.**

Why not book in for a Reiki treatment, where it can: help assist your natural healing processes; reduce stress and anxiety; reduce aches and pains; promote relaxation; develop your emotional, mental and spiritual wellbeing; aid your health and wellbeing; balance and increase your life force energy; reduce inflammation; help to heal infections and

boost immune system.

One hour Reiki treatment is the equivalent to the benefits of three to four hours sleep.

Reiki is simply placing hands lightly on or near the body, channelling universal life force energy to the areas which need it most in your mind, body and soul.

Contact Heulwen on 07576772260 for bookings availability and find further information on Reiki treatments at The Vale Foot Clinic, High Street, Barry.



## Studio Viva Fitness - Join now and pay nothing for February

**WANT to get fit, lose weight or be healthier in 2019?**

Then come and take a look at Studio Viva Ladies Fitness in Cowbridge. We provide fitness solutions for real women, from teenagers to those keeping active later in life.

We understand the many challenges women face in life, from work, to kids, to lack of time and the constant pressure of media images telling us we must look a certain way.

Studio Viva is about more than just fitness... feeling good, being healthy, social interaction and a friendly, encouraging environment are also hugely important. Our aim is to make you feel comfortable, inspired and supported. We truly are a gym for all women, whatever their age, size or ability.

So, if you think you don't like going to a gym, we offer something completely different – no floor to ceiling mirrors; no men; no Lycra; no pressure.

Easy-to-use machines designed for women; 30-minute machine circuit that can fit in anytime that suits you; friendly atmosphere with lots of interaction and chat; in a stylish studio environment with attentive, supportive staff always on hand; with sparkling clean equipment and surroundings.

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Tel: 01446 679919 [www.studiovivafitness.co.uk](http://www.studiovivafitness.co.uk)

## An expert's advice could help to avoid dispute

**BRENDAN** Sweeney, of David Prosser & Co Solicitors, writes:

It is estimated that 60 per cent of the UK population does not have a will.

A will takes effect on your death, and is an instruction as to what is to happen to your estate.

Probate disputes and challenges to wills are becoming a growth area, which often leads to substantial costs.

We now live in a world where family relationships are often very complex, and expert advice regarding the drafting of a will is essential.

A professional advisor can also advise you in relation to inheritance tax, and how you plan to minimise potential liabilities to it.

It is important that people are fully aware of

their duties and financial responsibilities when they make a will, to ensure that they comply with the technicalities that are required to have a valid will.

The cost of a professionally-drafted will, after taking advice, is considerably less than the costs that can be incurred if there is a dispute regarding your financial affairs after your death.

Substantial costs can also be saved by taking professional advice early, and putting in place powers of attorney – whereby you appoint trusted people to make decisions about your property and financial affairs and health and welfare, if you lose capacity.

The people appointed are made fully aware of their rights and responsibilities.

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# IN BUSINESS ADVERTISING/ADVERTORIAL FEATURE IN BUSINESS

## LOCAL NEEDS, LOCAL SERVICES

### Malmo Hearing picks up top award

**OUR latest award of the year 2019' was awarded by the Association of Optometrists.**

We are an independent family-run business offering the best solution for your hearing needs. We understand that hearing loss is a very personal and sensitive issue and we treat every patient with the utmost compassion. We will be with you every step of your journey to hear and live better, from the initial consultation through ongoing treatment and long term health and protection of your hearing.

Our expertise can offer the best way to protect and maintain your natural hearing.

We can offer the very latest in digital hearing aid technology and are very excited to announce the new Livio AI, the first-ever hearing aid to feature integrated sensors and artificial intelligence, including fall detection.

Livio AI is the world's first multi-purpose hearing aid that provides both superior sound quality and the ability to track body and brain health. Featuring integrated sensors and artificial intelligence, Livio AI redefines what a hearing aid can do.

Livio AI is so much more than just a hearing aid, it is a gateway to better health and wellness and will be

available from Malmo Hearing at end of March.

Our main practice, conveniently located in Bridgend town centre at 6 Derwen Road, is open six days a week from Monday to Thursday (9am-5pm); Friday (9am-3pm) and Saturday (9am-1pm). We have a second practice in Newport at 203 Caerleon Road, which is open Monday to Thursday (9am-5pm); Friday (9am-3pm) and have partnerships with pharmacies, GP surgeries and opticians throughout south Wales, enabling us to offer a customer-focused and community based local service.

We run regular clinics with our partners at Treorchy, Talbot Green, Dinas Powys, Barry, Caerphilly and Blackwood. Home visits are also available by request, including all CF, NP and SA postcodes.

Our services include free hearing assessments, free demonstrations of the latest in digital hearing aid technology, rechargeable hearing aids, microsuction ear wax removal, tinnitus therapy, hearing protection and hearing aid repairs and servicing.

Contact us on 01656 652444 or for more information, visit [www.malmohearing.co.uk](http://www.malmohearing.co.uk).

### The new season of fashion is only just beginning at Samantha B

**MY goodness where does the time go? January came and went and here we are racing through February.**

I am delighted to say that the new season's stock is starting to come in and it's lovely to see the gorgeous colours injecting a freshness into the shop.

Olsen have produced a gorgeous colour palette, beautiful subtle pastels highlighted with stronger tones to make them work. The ever-popular Mona jeans, a delight to wear, are much more than a jean and acceptable everywhere.

This season we have neutral shades as well as vibrant red and optic white, teamed together with a spring weight jumper and scarf to throw off the darkness of winter.

Bianca is always a crowd pleaser, with beautiful knitwear in colours you can start

wearing straight away and gives an instant lift.

Monochrome is always very sophisticated; highlight this with one of this season's big colours in emerald, red or cobalt and you'll be turning heads in no time.

Bianca and Olsen always produce a range of coordinated matching colours, but not in a twee way – a modern way to use your wardrobe with beautifully fitting clothes at affordable prices.

I am delighted to introduce to Samantha B a new range called Great Plains. Just like the other collections, it is a lovely mix and match range at great prices for effortless dressing.

I particularly love it when ladies call in and tell me about the comments they've received. I am the only supplier of Bianca in the area so if you're looking for something different, call in and see what's on offer.

If you're still in winter

mode, the sale is still on with crazy prices. I feel lucky if I find something in a sale; it gives you the confidence to wear things in a different way

if you've had them at a reduced price.

We still have plenty of choice – for example, a Marble jumper, originally £63, is now

£18 and Olsen jeans are now £29.

What are you waiting for?

## Samantha B

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- The Smallest rechargeable hearing solution available today

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and experience the difference!**



## READERS' LETTERS EXTRA

### 'More green space needed'

**T**HE Vale Council is currently consulting on replacing a green area in Bonvilston used by children for play, and residents to socialise, with more new housing.

In the LDP and Welsh Government planning policies, this 'Amenity Greenspace' is supposed to be protected from development and enhanced. The Vale Council have a policy that new housing developments require a minimum amount of public open space for play and other purposes per dwelling.

Should the existing houses of Bonvilston be built today, there would be insufficient public space to satisfy the council's planners. So, it's bewildering that what open space there is, these same planners are proposing to replace with more housing.

The scheme would also reduce the already limited parking available for Maes Y Ffynon residents – the houses constructed in the 1950s didn't foresee the rise in car ownership.

I believe that most people support Welsh Government policies that are intended to protect the green spaces in our communities and to

provide a variety of play spaces for children, close to homes. This housing proposal suggests that the Vale Council disagrees...

**Cllr Ian Perry, St Nicholas.**

In response, Cllr Andrew Parker, Vale Council cabinet member for housing and building services, said: "This is a scheme proposed by the Council's Housing department and would be subject to exactly the same planning requirements as any other development of its type. No planning application has yet been submitted, but, should that happen, it would need to satisfy national and local policies, including those contained in the LDP, while the public would also have the opportunity to express their views before any decision was taken."

"The proposal is currently subject to a 28-day statutory pre-application consultation period and an event to gauge public opinion on it was held on Monday. Residents can also share their views by completing a survey online at <https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=154815405226> or by collecting a hard copy from the Council's Dock Offices."

### 'Bring trees to the Vale'

**W**E are losing our street/urban trees at an alarming rate. Whether they are being removed due to disease, old age or traffic damage, they are not being replaced at anywhere near the number needed, the result is that we are making our towns and communities devoid of green spaces.

Yet these trees are important to making our urban spaces pleasant and tolerable. Trees in our urban communities have a number of environmental, social and ecological benefits, such as improving air quality by the production of oxygen and the absorption of air pollution; they can control flooding by intercepting and soaking up rainfall; contribute to reducing climate change;

help to reduce noise pollution.

They provide food and habitat for our wildlife and provide shade and cooling during heat waves.

We understand that local government is under great financial pressure so we need to send a message to our councillors that our street/urban trees are a high priority for local people. Barry Action for Nature has launched a petition calling on the Vale Council to commit to increasing tree cover in Barry and the wider Vale of Glamorgan.

I believe that the overwhelming majority of local people would want a greener more wildlife friendly Barry. Readers can find the petition at: [you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/for-the-sake-of-nature-and-people-protect-our-street-trees-now](http://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/for-the-sake-of-nature-and-people-protect-our-street-trees-now).

**Rob Curtis, Barry.**

## Monday is budget day at Barry Town Council

**ON Monday, February 11, Barry Town Council will meet to decide its precept for the year 2019-20.**

The council ran a budget consultation across social media to engage with the public.

It asked the question: Are you happy with the council increasing your council tax contribution by 89p per month (band D council tax payer) in order to deliver its budget proposals?

On Facebook 903 votes were cast with 24 per cent in favour

of the increase and 76 per cent opposed to it. On Twitter 217 people responded with 17 per cent in favour and 83 per cent opposed.

The interim leader of the Conservative Group, Cllr Vince Bailey, told The GEM: "Members of the Conservative group have been engaging with the process from the start, and I am pleased to see that Labour's initial proposals for a 20 per cent hike have been dramatically reduced already – thanks in part to the efforts of our member

on the finance committee, Cllr Rowlands.

"We will continue to speak with the public and play our part in ensuring a fair settlement for Barry residents."

Also on Monday's agenda is an opportunity for the Docks Incinerator Action Group to raise the issue that there has still been no decision by the Welsh Government on whether an environmental impact assessment should be carried out in relation to the Barry Biomass plant.

## Music in the Vale concert proves to be a huge success



**ON January 27, more than 100 people attended Stanwell School, Penarth, where the winners from the November competition performed a selection of instrumental and vocal pieces.**

The audience listened to an afternoon of musical entertainment by the young people. The afternoon was compered by Allan Grayson-Jones and the accompanists were Rhiannon Pritchard, Emma Arscott, Rebecca Selley and Sian Wynn Newton.

Vocalists and instrumentalists aged

eight to 24 years should apply to take part in the 2019 competition, which will take place on November 16 and 17, by emailing [secretary@musicinthevale.org.uk](mailto:secretary@musicinthevale.org.uk) for application details.

The full programme included choirs and the winner was Cor Heol y March, made up of 30 young people and was conducted by Eleri Roberts.

Cor Heol y March performed Ffrindiau Bach a Mawr – Meirion Wynn Jones; Distawrwydd – Euros Rhys Evans and Hava Nageela – Folk Song from Israel.

### Charity's twmpath for Eyecare project

**LOCAL charity Vale for Africa invites Vale residents to a 'Twmpath', a Welsh barn dance, to celebrate Saint David's Day and help raise funds to support its 'Eyecare' project.**

Ted Arbuthnot, Eyecare project leader, said: "Each year, we set out with a team of optometrists and GPs to remote areas of the Tororo district of Uganda to train village health teams and transfer our healthcare skills to them."

"The project has been hugely successful, but there is still much more that we can do. "The Twmpath will be a fun way for people

help get the team on their way."

The event takes place on Friday, March 1 at St Donat's Arts Centre from 7pm to 11pm. Thingumajigs ceilidh band will lead the dancing and there is a licenced bar. Cheese & biscuits are included in the price; £10 adults, £7.50 students and £5 for children and are available via [www.valeforafrica.org.uk](http://www.valeforafrica.org.uk) or in person at Annette Dobbs Eyecare, 40 Tynwydd Road, Barry, CF62 8AZ, call 01446 735130.

For more information on Vale for Africa, contact Gareth Kiddie at [gareth@gka.org.uk](mailto:gareth@gka.org.uk).

## Rail upgrades are on track

**VALE MP Cairns met Network Rail representatives recently to find out more about the accessibility upgrades planned for Barry and Cadoxton stations.**

Accessibility improvements are currently being designed for both stations and will be delivered through UK Government's 'Access for All' funding, with match-funding from Welsh Government. Once designs have been completed, work is expected to begin at Cadoxton Station in Summer 2019, and at Barry station in 2020.

Dale Crutcher, senior commercial scheme sponsor for Network Rail Wales and Borders, said: "Improving access at stations will make a real difference to passengers by making it easier for people to get to work, or travel to see friends and family. We are planning a record investment over the next five years to cater for increasing demand and transform the railway in Wales."

Mr Cairns said: "I'm really pleased to see funding from the UK Government being allocated locally, so that much-needed improvements to accessibility can be carried out at Cadoxton and Barry train stations. The regeneration of Barry as a whole is one of my biggest priorities and attracting investment is a key part of that. The station upgrades add to this and helps to make Barry a better place to live and work."

The funding for Barry and Cadoxton stations was allocated at the beginning of Network Rail's current control period (2014-2019). The UK Government has allocated a further £300m funding to continue with the Access for All Programme in Control Period 6 (2019-2024). The stations set to receive this funding will be confirmed in April 2019.

## Nominations for the Barry Town Mayor awards are now open

**NOMINATIONS are open for the 2019 Town Mayor Awards which honours outstanding individuals in the Barry area who dedicate their time to help others in the area.**

There will be two categories: youth and adult. All nominees must be a resident of Barry.

Nominations should be sent in writing, detailing the reasons for the nomination to the Town

Mayor, Barry Town Council, 7 Gladstone Road, Barry, CF62 8NA (Deadline for nominations is Friday, March 8).

Winners must be available to attend the annual mayor-making ceremony held on Monday, May 12, to receive the award.

Winners will be notified on Thursday, April 18.

For more information contact Julie Hurd on 01446 704921; or [juliehurd@barrytown-council.gov.uk](mailto:juliehurd@barrytown-council.gov.uk).

## Family and work commitments cited as Barry councillor stands down

**CLLR Richard Bertin has resigned from Barry Town Council.**

In a letter to the council he explained: "After much deliberation, I have decided to call it a day after 20 years of representing my community of Court Ward due to family and work commitments."

"Due to a change of job, I don't feel that I can give the full commitment anymore that is needed to represent my community."

Cllr Bertin, who sat as an independent, said he also wanted to thank all those who had supported him over the years.

Got a story?  
Then get in touch  
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## R & D JEWELLER'S ANTIQUE ROADSHOW

Couple receive cash award for unwanted items



A LOCAL couple this week had a very lucky day when visiting R & D Jeweller's Antique Roadshow. Like most households they had a drawer full of bits and bobs including an old gent's watch from approximately 1930. The watch was working but had left to them. A selection of old, broken and incomplete rings and a few odd items of unusual jewellery were also included.

"The young couple were delighted with the good news," said Mr Harding, a professional jeweller. He went on to say, "The couple asked me not to reveal the exact amount they received but I can confirm we are talking thousands of pounds."

### HIDDEN TREASURE

Like most readers you probably have dreamt about winning the pools or finding a pot of gold. Many households have hidden treasure sitting around with the owners not knowing the true value. Well, this is your last chance to visit Penarth, Cowbridge and Barry.

Mr Harding added, "With many years of experience in valuing and purchasing watches, jewellery and

gems, I could tell you many stories when people have visited a roadshow with items that were seemingly of little value to them. "Whilst reading this article, many readers will be thinking of an old item of a piece of unused jewellery.

### VALUATION

Mr Harding added, "The reasons behind choosing Barry is because it's well situated and well known to local people. The roadshow will be the last of its kind to visit the area. Many items are hoped to be found."

Your help is needed to make this unusual event a success with a free valuation service and no obligation to sell, what is there to lose?

Things you should look for and take next week

include broken rings, old chains, pocket watches, old silver, diamond and gem set jewellery (even with stones missing), old pictures, objects d'art, coins, medals and virtually anything old or interesting

Their buyers urgently require stock for collectors and overseas customers, and are offering an instant cash settlement on any items they buy.

No matter how large or small your find, you will be pleasantly surprised by their cash offer, but remember the roadshow is for 3 days only at Penarth, Cowbridge and Barry on:

**Thursday 14th, Friday 15th and Saturday 16th February**

# TOP PRICES PAID FOR SILVER

## WANTED!

SILVER TEA SETS  
SILVER  
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SILVER PICTURE FRAMES  
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SILVER COINS  
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ANTIQUE SILVER  
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Gold Rings, Gold Chains, Gold  
Pocket Watches/Watchchains,  
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Gold in any condition, foreign or  
English. Top London prices paid.

## WANTED

VICTORIAN DIAMOND SET  
JEWELLERY  
LARGE DIAMONDS  
OLD POCKET WATCHES  
GOLD COINS  
GOLD WATCH CHAINS  
VINTAGE WATCHES REQUIRED  
CARTIER  
PATEK PHILIPPE  
IWC - ROLEX  
AND ANY OTHER INTERESTING  
WATCHES

**WAR MEDALS  
REQUIRED**

**Old Rolex PICTURES**  
**£75-£1,000**  
ANY CONDITION, WORKING OR NOT

**Chronograph PICTURES**  
**Up to £10,000**  
ANY CONDITION, WORKING OR NOT

**Square or Oblong PICTURES**  
**£150-£5,000**  
ANY CONDITION, WORKING OR NOT

**THURSDAY  
14th  
FEBRUARY**

11am-4pm  
**THE PAGET  
ROOMS,  
PENARTH,  
CF64 3EG**

**FRIDAY  
15th  
FEBRUARY**

11am-4pm  
**COWBRIDGE  
TOWN HALL  
COWBRIDGE,  
CF71 7AP**

**SATURDAY  
16th  
FEBRUARY**

11am-4pm  
**BARRY LIBRARY  
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BARRY, CF63 4RW**

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To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at [HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) or apply in writing to:  
Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Environment and Housing  
Civic Offices, Holton Road  
Barry CF63 4RU  
[www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: 13TH FEBRUARY 2019**

**All Homes4U properties have double glazing and central heating unless otherwise stated and will be allocated to the maximum occupancy.**

It may take longer to rehouse you if you are awarded medical priority as there is a shortage of accessible and adapted homes in the Vale.

**BUTTRILLS WALK, BARRY NO PETS****H4U reference 203042**

- Three bed flat
- Second floor (no lift)

Rent £104.33 per week inc water

**BUTTRILLS WALK, BARRY****H4U reference 203212**

- 55+ pref to apps with a medical priority
- One bed bungalow
- Level access shower
- Community Alarm

Rent £112.78 per week inc water/alarm

**CWM PARC, BARRY NO PETS****H4U reference 206496**

- 60+ Pref to appts with a medical priority
- One bed flat
- Ground floor
- Level access shower
- Community Alarm

Rent £119.07 per week inc water/alarm

**HILL STREET, BARRY NO PETS****H4U reference 211972**

- 55+ Steps down to front door
- One bed flat
- Ground floor
- Wet Room
- Community Alarm

Rent £100.70 per week inc water/Alarm

**NORTH WALK, BARRY NO PETS****H4U reference 218059**

- Three bed flat
- First floor (no lift)

Rent £104.33 per week inc water

**BEDFORD RISE, LLANTWIT MAJOR****H4U reference 233293**

- Pref to appts with a medical priority
- Two bed flat
- Ground floor
- Level access to shower

Rent £103.63 per week inc water

**CRAWSHAY COURT, LLANTWIT MAJOR****H4U reference 234194**

- 60+ pref to apps with a medical priority
- One Bed flat
- First floor (with lift)
- Level access shower
- Warden

Rent £121.56 per week inc water/warden

**OWAIN COURT, ST ATHAN NO PETS****H4U reference 249321**

- 55+
- Two bed flat
- First floor (no lift)
- Community Alarm

Rent £105.29 per week inc water/alarm

**CASTLELAND STREET, BARRY****H4U reference 204137**

- 55+ pref to apps with medical priority
- One bed bungalow
- Level access shower
- Community Alarm

Rent £106.61 per week inc water/alarm

**REDLANDS AVENUE, PENARTH****H4U reference 243274**

- 60+ Pref to appts with medical priority
- On bed flat
- Second floor (lift)
- Level access to shower
- Warden/Alarm

Rent £120.14 per week inc water/warden

**ST AUGUSTINES CRESCENT, PENARTH****H4U reference 244450**

- Pref to apps with medical priority
- Two bed flat
- Ground floor
- Wet Room
- Ramping to front

Rent £102.12 per week inc water

**ST LUKES AVENUE, PENARTH NO PETS****H4U reference 245208**

- Two bed flat
- First floor (no lift)

Rent £100.67 per week inc water

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - HAFOD HOUSING ASSOCIATION****CROSS COMMON ROAD, DINAS POWIS**

Hafod Housing Association together with the Vale of Glamorgan Council announce the new development of properties at Cross Common Road, Dinas Powis.

Expressions of interest are invited from Homes4U members with a local connection to Dinas Powis (local work, family or life connections). Anticipated completion date is end of April 2019. A local lettings policy applies to this scheme.

4 x 2 bedroom houses (rent £109.83 per week plus service charge)

**CAERWENT GARDENS, CAERLEON ROAD, DINAS POWIS**

United Welsh Housing Association together with the Vale of Glamorgan Council announce the new development of properties at Caerwent Gardens, Dinas Powis. Expressions of interest are invited from Homes4U members with a local connection to Dinas Powis (local work, family or life connections). Anticipated completion date is end of March 2019. A local lettings policy applies to this scheme.

3 x 3 bed houses - rent £112.55 per week • 5 x 2 bed houses - £110.78 per week • 1 x 4 bed houses - £132.95 per week

Service charge to be confirmed and new rents will be applied from April 2019

**PHYLLIS STREET, BARRY NO PETS****H4U reference 252641**

- 55+ Pref to apps with a medical priority
- One bed flat
- Ground floor
- Level access shower
- Water meter
- Community Alarm

Rent £89.17 per week inc water

**NEWYDD HOUSING ASSOCIATION****Ffordd Y Dociau, Barry Waterfront**

Newydd Housing Association together with the Vale of Glamorgan Council announces the new development at Reflections @ The Quays, Barry Waterfront. Bids are invited from Homes4U members

181488 - 2 x 1 bed flats first floor (no lift)

181490 - 2 x 1 bed flats ground floor (general need bathroom)

Rent in the region of £ 91.07 (to be confirmed) and service charge (to be confirmed)

All Applicants will be subject to a verification interview prior to any offer being made. All offers of tenancy will be subject to a satisfactory references. Applicants with no previous social housing tenancy or a previous failed social housing tenancy will be required to attend the tenancy ready workshop.

Vale of Glamorgan Council • Hafod Housing Association • Newydd Housing Association • United Welsh • Wales and West Housing Association

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of the rented homes. When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference. All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.





# KNIGHTS

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Three bedroom bay fronted property situated near the town centre of Barry within walking distance of shops and train station providing links to Cardiff and Bridgend. This property has been renovated to a good standard throughout and enjoys views across Barry Docks and the Bristol Channel beyond. Offered for sale with no chain.

78 Dock Road, Barry, CF63 3QQ £169,950



Contemporary style apartment occupying the first floor of this converted Victorian building situated in the West end of Barry and enjoying panoramic views across Barry Waterfront, Sully and sea beyond. In walking distance of train station providing links to Cardiff and Bridgend, High Street and Park Crescent shops. Offered for sale with no chain.

21b Romilly Road, Barry, CF62 6LF £179,500



This property is unique as you get two for the price of one! You could choose to live in the beautifully renovated two bedroom first floor residence located at street level and rent out the self-contained one bedroom ground floor apartment with its own private entrance and enjoy a rental income of £450 per month!

65 Wenvoe Terrace, Barry, CF62 7ET £225,000



detached bungalow situated within the highly desirable West end of Barry. Ideal for roof conversion if desired providing a further two/three bedrooms and additional bathroom. Renovated throughout by the current owner. Enclosed gardens to front and rear. Driveway providing off road parking for two/three vehicles. Offered for sale with no chain.

49 Pontypridd Road, Barry, CF62 7LP £250,000



Every window, balcony and roof terrace enjoying panoramic sea views. This apartment is a must see and early viewing is urged to avoid disappointment.

Rare to the market and set over two floors, this executive apartment situated on the exclusive Knap area set within the highly desirable West end of Barry.

24 Waters Edge, Barry, CF62 6UD £295,000



Well-presented and maintained three bedroom semi-detached property set on the highly desirable Cwm Talwg development towards the West end of Barry.

Views of open countryside to the front elevation. Driveway providing off road parking for up the three vehicles.

21 Teifi Drive, Barry, CF62 7TL £225,000



detached property set on the popular Highlight Park development in North Barry enjoying views across open countryside. In walking distance of supermarket, pharmacy, community centre, doctors' surgery, public transport and schools.

Easy access to Cardiff and M4 corridor.

16 Coed Mawr, Barry, CF62 8AD £185,000

84 HIGH STREET,  
BARRY CF62 7DX

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## KNIGHTS LETTINGS

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Queen Street £625pcm



A three bedroom detached family home, property comprising of Entrance hallway. Open plan lounge/dining room. Fitted kitchen with oven and hob. Space for washing machine. Large conservatory. Downstairs W.C. Good size study which can also be used as a fourth bedroom.

Melton Lodge, The Lane, St Nicholas £995pcm



Brand new three bed town house situated on Barry Waterfront offering panoramic views from the front aspect. The property comprising of Entrance hallway, downstairs W.C., Study/Dining room, Kitchen/Diner with patio doors providing access to the rear garden.

33 Neptune Road, Barry £950pcm



A two bedroom mid link unfurnished property with garage and driveway, enclosed rear garden, fitted kitchen with oven, hob, dishwasher, fridge freezer and washing machine, family bathroom, en-suite shower room, fitted wardrobes to both bedrooms, Gas Central heating.

5 Heol Par, Barry £750pcm



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## Whats on and where in your area

### Cowbridge U3A Meeting

THE next Cowbridge U3A monthly meeting will be a talk entitled 'Land of Song' by Dean Powell at 2pm on Wednesday, February 13 at Cowbridge Town Hall. Visitors welcome; there is a small fee, which includes refreshments. See [www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge).

### Penarth Civic Society to visit Insole Court

THERE will be a guided tour on February 16 of this magnificent house (Fairwater Road, Cardiff CF5 2LN) which only reopened recently and was a significant topic of a guest speaker we had last year, Mike Statham, who gave a presentation on Penarth alabaster, which is used extensively through the house.

The tour takes in ground floor rooms and the first floor library. There is a £3 per person charge for members and £5 for non-members. Meet at visitor reception at 1.50pm on Saturday, February 16. We ask members to volunteer car-pooling; if you are able to offer or need a lift, please contact dave.noble1959@gmail.com or phone 07966 364988.

### Mayor's Youth Concert

ON Saturday, February 16 the Mayor of Llantwit Major will be holding the annual Youth Music Concert in St Illtud's Church to showcase the wide selection of young local talent.

This year's performances include sets from Llantwit Major School, Stage Door 1, Atlantic College, Major Music and more. It is the fourth year the concert has taken place and is sure to be another inspirational evening.

Tickets cost £5 and are available from Llantwit Major Town Council's Office in the Town Hall or call 01446 793707.

All proceeds donated to Mayor's chosen charities: Headlines, Age Connects and St Illtud's Church restoration fund.

### Film night in Barry

THE Benefice of Barry welcome everyone to their next film night, so grab your duflie coat and pack your marmalade sandwiches!

Paddington Bear is in town on Friday, February 15 at 7pm at St Mary's Church, Holton Road, Barry with Paddington 2.

Doors open 6.30pm; adults £3 children £1.50 at the door. Tuck shop and refreshments available to purchase.

### Carers' support group

AS a carer, you keep going in spite of tiredness, lack of sleep, snatched meals, cleaning up accidents, feeling annoyed and feeling down.

Being a carer is not easy, and you need to learn to look after yourself – it isn't selfish to look after yourself, in fact it is selfish not to. Suggestions from the group have included having a meal delivered once a week so that you don't have to cook, setting an hour aside to meet a friend, enjoying an hour of gardening or listening to music.

The next meeting of the carers' group takes place on Thursday, February 14 at 2pm in Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge. Contact Rev Victoria on 01446 775381 or [vicar@cowbridgeparish.com](mailto:vicar@cowbridgeparish.com) for further information.

### Murder, She Didn't Write

DEGREES of Error's hilarious and innovative Murder, She Didn't Write will visit Maesteg Town Hall on February 22.

In this wild and anarchic show, the audience become both author and sleuth as they are invited to help to create their very own Agatha Christie-inspired masterpiece – and to watch it unfold on stage.

To book tickets, visit [www.maesteg-townhall.com/events/3733/murder-she-didnt-write/](http://www.maesteg-townhall.com/events/3733/murder-she-didnt-write/) or call the box office on 01656 815995.

### Porthcawl Buckaneers Summer Carnival

PORHCRAWL Buckaneers will hold their summer carnival on Saturday, July 20 and the theme is 'A Year of Discovery'.

Applications for float and walker entries should contact

Kerry Marlow on [porthcawlcarnival.co.uk](http://porthcawlcarnival.co.uk), Porthcawl carnival's

Facebook page or message 07900 494386.



**NEW**



**Llys Gwent, Barry**  
Three Beds, Lounge,  
Dining Room, Utility  
Garage, Drive

**£235,000** C72

**NEW**



**Usk Way, Barry**  
Three Beds, Lounge,  
Kitchen Breakfast Room  
Garage, Drive

**£225,000** tbc

**NEW**



**Lon Cefn Mably, Rhooose**  
3 Bedrooms; No Chain  
2 Receptions; Extended Kitchen  
Large Rear Garden; Drive & Garage

**£192,500** C71




**Chris Davies**



**Commercial Road, Barry**  
Two Bedrooms  
Refurbished Bathroom  
Rear Garden

**£122,500**

**NEW**



**Thistle Close, Barry**  
Two Bedrooms,  
Conservatory  
Drive


**£145,000** E37

**NEW**



**Victoria Road, Barry**  
3 beds, 2 receps  
Kitchen Diner  
GF Bathroom

**£176,950** D56



**Porthkerry Road, Barry**  
West End,  
Three Bedrooms,  
Two Receptions

**£179,500** E43

**Rhooose** 01446 711900  
**Llantwit Major** 01446 792020  
**Barry** 01446 700007  
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**Lets!**

West End Terrace, Llantwit Major

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West End Location

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Speedwell Drive, Rhooose


Two Bedrooms

Modern Family Bathroom With Shower

Modern Kitchen. Driveway Parking

Council Tax Band C. EPC C69. £650pcm

**NEW**



**Cross Street, Barry**  
Three Double Bedrooms,  
Two Receptions  
Pretty Rear Garden

**£179,950** E51



**Ael Y Coed, Barry**  
Three Bedrooms  
Kitchen Breakfast Room  
Garage Conversion


**£227,500** tbc

**4/5 BEDS**



**Cudd Y Coed, Barry**  
Four/Five Beds,  
Extension Family/Sun Room  
Drive, Open Plan

**£299,950** D65



**Walston Road, Wenvoe**  
4 Bedrooms; 3 Receptions  
Annex Style Wing With En-Suite  
Tiered Gardens With Rural Views

**£317,500** D58

**NO CHAIN**



**Havant Close, Rhooose**  
2 Double Bedrooms; Sea Views  
Large Living Room; Refitted Kitchen  
White Bathroom & WC; No Chain

**£95,000** D67


**SEA VIEWS**



**Porthkerry Leisure Park, near Rhooose**  
2 Bedrooms With Full 365 Day Residency  
Glorious Channel Views; Wrap-Around Gardens  
Well Kept; 2 Shower Rooms; Driveway

**£95,000** E47

**NO CHAIN**



**South View, Rhooose**  
Three Bedrooms; No Onward Chain  
Delightful Open Channel Views  
Large Lounge & Kitchen

**£145,000** C69


**NEW PRICE**



**Showle Acre, Rhooose**  
3 Bedrooms  
Exceptional Parking Facilities  
No Onward Chain

**£179,950** D67

**NEW PRICE**



**Picton Road, Rhooose**  
3 Bedrooms  
Generous Gardens  
Drive And Garage


**£190,000** D57



**Picton Road, Rhooose**  
3 Bedrooms & 2 Receptions  
Large Conservatory Extension  
Backing Lower Airport Grounds

**£194,950** D56


**SUPERB**



**Showle Acre, Rhooose**  
3 Double Bedrooms  
Beautifully Refurbished  
Backing Open Countryside

**£245,000** C69

**FOUR BEDROOMS**



**Maes Slowes Lyes, Rhooose Point**  
Four Generous Bedrooms  
Lovely Private Rear Garden  
Two Car Drive & Integral Garage


**£257,500** C72



**Llwyn Y Gog, Rhooose Point**  
Superb Size Detached - Sea Views  
5 Bedrooms; 3 Receptions; 3 Bathrooms  
Double Garage; Large Family Rear Garden


**£325,000** C69

**NEW**



**Adenfield Way, Rhooose**  
Spacious Detached  
4 Beds; 3 Receptions  
Very Spacious

**£325,000** C71



**Andros, Llancale**  
Five Bedrooms, Three Receptions  
Exceptional Size Garden  
Heated Swimming Pool; Generous Parking

**£425,000** F30



**Heol Pearetree, Rhooose Point**  
5 Double Bedrooms; 3 Receptions  
Conservatory With Glass Roof  
Sea Views; Very Substantial House

**£425,000** D57

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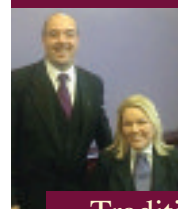
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## Family Notices

## SHORT

## Walter Raymond (Ray)

Passed away peacefully at home on 30th January 2019, it has been a joy and privilege to share our lives with our lovely man.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Wednesday, 13th February at 11am. No flowers by request. Donations may be made in memory of Ray in favour of Marie Curie Cancer Care at the service.

## MULHERN

## Reuben James

Suddenly passed away on 28th January 2019, aged 26 years, loving son to Christian and Julie, brother to Abbey, cherished uncle to Georgie and Ruby. Reuben will be greatly missed by his grandparents, Brian and Christine. He will never be forgotten by his uncles Adam, Tank, Tommy and his aunts Emma, Lara, Regina, his nephews Sebastian, Joe and his niece Izzy.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service in our Chapel of Rest on Wednesday, 13th February at 2pm, followed by a committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only. Donations may be made in memory of Reuben in favour of Mind at the service. *No more money, no more fancy dress, this other kingdom seems by far the best.*

## LEWIS

## Ernest James (Ernie)

Peacefully at Collegefields Nursing Home, Barry on 28th January, Ernie formerly of Lower Morel Street, Barry. Dearly beloved husband of Rowena, much loved dad of Rhys, Keri and Greg. Father-in-law of Karen, Sarah and Becci, adored pappy of Shaun, Aiden, Mollie, Sam, Jesse, Ollie and great grand pappy of Louie.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until a celebration of his life at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Friday, 15th February at 1pm.

Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service, all donations will go to support Velindre Cancer Care. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Anthony D.H. Thomas. Further enquiries telephone 01446407962

## CLAY

## Hedley Vivian (Viv)

Peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital on 30th January. Beloved husband of Edna, loving father to Michael and Philip, loved by his daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Resting at W.A. Brown Funeralcare, Llantwit Major until the service at 11am on Friday, 15th February at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. Family flowers only. Donations to the Alzheimer's Society, 43-44 Crutched Friars, London, EC3N 2AE welcomed in memory of Viv.

## GRIST

## Michael Wilfred R.I.B.A.

(of Flush Meadow, Llantwit Major)

Passed away on Wednesday, 30th January 2019. Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Ffônmon. Funeral Tuesday, 19th February, service 11am at St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major, followed by interment at Llantwit Major Cemetery, Boverton Road.

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## ORAM

## Terry

Peacefully passed away at the Heath Hospital on 26th January 2019, aged 83 years. Loving husband to Shirley, brother to Val, stepfather to Linda and Stephen. Cherished grampy, gramps and uncle to all his grandchildren, nieces and nephew.

*Terry will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.*

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Friday, 15th February at 2pm.

No flowers by request. Donations may be made in memory of Terry in favour of Marie Curie Cancer Care at the service.

## BALL

## Freda Winifred Edith

Passed away peacefully at home on the 30th January 2019 surrounded by her loving family. Loving wife of the late Doug, beloved mum of Sue, Jan and Howard. Loved mother-in-law of Pete, Dave and Angela. Adored nan and grandmother to Andrew, Louise, Sherri, Nick and Nathan and their wife and partners, Kelly, B.Jay, Barry and Carla. Cherished 'Old Nan' to all of her great grandchildren. Loving sister-in-law to Glo and sister to the late Graham.

Freda is resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until her funeral service at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium on Thursday, 14th February at 12 noon.

The family request family flowers only and donations if desired, in memory of Freda, may be made to Marie Curie

## MANSBRIDGE

## Maria Jane (née McKay)

Peacefully on 26th January 2019, Maria, beloved wife of the late Kevin. Much loved mum of Jason and Gareth, a dearly loved nan to Alfie, Oscar, Ifan and Ffion.

*Maria will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.*

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry on Saturday, 9th February at 11am. Immediate family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if so desired for Ward A1 at UHW c/o the funeral director.

## WOLDRIDGE

## Kenneth John

Peacefully at home on 28th January, Ken passed away aged 82 years. Beloved husband of Margaret, loving father to Kevin and a cherished grandfather to his grandchildren Kevin Junior, Leanne, Melissa and Cieran; and great grandchildren Owain, Casey and Brandon.

*He will be greatly missed by all his loving family and friends.*

Resting at W.A. Brown Funeralcare, Llantwit Major until the service at 10am on Wednesday, 13th February at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend.

Family flowers only. Donations in Ken's memory to Stroke Association, Stroke Association House, 240 City Road, London EC1V 2PR and Diabetes UK, Wells Lawrence House, 126 Back Church Lane, London E1 1FH.

## KILLICK

## Linda

After a short illness, Linda passed away peacefully at home on 29th January 2019. Beloved wife of Bob, loving mother of John and Mark and much loved grandmother of Owen, Elin-Mai, Rosie and Seren.

*Linda will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.*

Funeral Tuesday, 12th February, service at St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major at 10am, followed by cremation at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, payable to Marie Curie or Motor Neurone Disease Association may be sent c/o Tovey Bros, 9/11 Cardiff Road, Newport, NP20 2EH. Tel: 01633 266848 www.toveybros.co.uk

## DUNFORD

## Colin John

Peacefully at home, Colin, much loved husband of Trish. Will be sadly missed.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Thursday, 14th February at 3.15pm. No flowers by request.

## MORGAN

## Philip William

It is with a broken heart the family announce the peaceful passing of Phil of Boverton, late of Tair Onen, after a short illness on 27th January at University Hospital of Wales. Beloved husband of the late Nancy, father of Paul and daughter-in-law Joanna.

*Phil will be sadly missed by his family and many friends.*

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Ffônmon. Funeral Tuesday, 12th February, service and interment 1.30pm at Zoar Presbyterian Church, Bonvilston.

Family flowers only, donations if desired to the British Heart Foundation, c/o the funeral director.

## WALLIS

## Barry Hamilton

Passed away peacefully at Oaklands Care Home on Monday, 28th January, formerly of City House, Bettws, Bridgend. Beloved husband of the late Pearl and a devoted father to Daryl, Julian and the late Sean. A cherished grandfather and great grandfather.

Funeral on Thursday, 14th February. Service at St. Robert's Catholic Church, Aberkenfig at 11am, followed by interment at Sarn Cemetery.

Flowers and enquiries to Penybont Funeral Services, Meadow Street, Bridgend. Tel 01656-650831.

## SMITH

## Brenda Mary

Peacefully on 26th January at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff - Brenda, devoted wife to the late Graham and much loved mum of Karen.

*She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.*

Brenda is resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until her service at Barry Cemetery Chapel, Cemetery Approach, Barry on Monday, 11th February at 11.15am, followed by interment.

Floral tributes may be sent to the funeral home. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay Ellis on 01446 407962.

## WILDING

## Yvonne

Peacefully at home on 30th January, Yvonne passed away after a courageous battle with her illness, aged 72 years. Dearly beloved wife of the late Keith, cherished mother to Anna and son-in-law Andrew and adored grandmother to Isabella and Lara.

*She will be sorely missed by all her loving family and friends.*

Resting at W.A. Brown Funeralcare, Llantwit Major until the service at 1.15pm on Wednesday, 20th February at Church of St John the Baptist, Llanblethian and afterwards to Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 2.45pm.

Family flowers only. Donations in Yvonne's memory welcomed to Marie Curie Hospice, Bridgeman Road, Penarth, CF64 3YR and the Donkey Sanctuary, Slade House Farm, Sidmouth, EX10 0NU.

*Special thanks to all the healthcare professionals who cared for Yvonne.*

## DOWDELL

## Herbert Ernest (Bert)

Peacefully at the Waverley Nursing Home on Friday, 1st February, Bert, passed away.

Much loved and devoted father of Jacqueline, Lesley and Ian. Cherished father-in-law of Paul, Haydn and Tracey. Much loved bampy of Kerry, Andrew, Neil, Rachel, Nicholas, Charlotte and Carys. Adored great grandfather of Oliver, Thomas, Summer, Eliza, Benjamin, Thomas, Hannah, Ava, Millie, Theo, Skye and Zach and the late baby Louis.

*Bert will be greatly missed by all his family and loved forever - you were one in million.*

## Acknowledgements

## CLISSETT

## Norah (née Tierney)

Norah's family extend their heartfelt thanks to all family, friends and neighbours for their kind messages, donations and especially for their presence at the celebration of Norah's life.

## Acknowledgements

## BROWN

## Steven Craig (Steve)

Steve's family would like to thank all friends, family and work colleagues for their kind messages, generous donations to Bloodwise and presence at the celebration of Steve's life. Special thanks to the wonderful nursing staff on Ward B4 and HDU at the UHW, Heath for all the care given during Steve's stay.

Thank you also to Phil and Vanessa of W. James & Sons Funeral Directors of Ffônmon for their service and help in getting us through this very sad time.

## BLAKE

## Colette Marie

Diane, David and family would like thank all family and friends for their support, condolences and kind messages at this sad time. Thank you for all donations made in memory of Colette to Touch Trust Therapy.

We would like to thank Father Kevin Lake for conducting a moving service, also a special thank you to Melanie Parsons for the reading of the eulogy and to Kieran Parsons for the touching and sentimental words spoken at the service. Thank you to Michael Bennett for his rendition of 'The Greatest Love'. Finally, thank you to Lyndsay Ellis of Vale Funeral Service for his compassion and guidance at this difficult time.

## In Memory

## MOLLART

## Shirley Vivienne

3 July 1933 - 9 February 2015

Beloved sister of Val, Hazel, Gren and Dee. Dear sister-in-law of Marian and the late Stan. Devoted auntie of Rebecca, Julia, Alex and Fiona.

We hold you close within our hearts, and there you will remain, to walk beside us all life through, until we meet again.

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR MUM

## JONES

## Rebecca

9 March 1981 - 8 February 2018

We love you still, today, tomorrow and always, Jacob and Immie.

## IN LOVING MEMORY

## JONES

## Rebecca

9 March 1981 - 8 February 2018

In our hearts and thoughts everyday, Mum, Dad, Rosie, Ollie and Tommy.

## BIRNER

## Angela

Mum, we miss you making our days so sparkly.

Love you always Abi & Luschie xx

## BIRNER

## Angela

I love you my angel.

I miss you every second of the day.

Alf x

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**Diamond Wedding  
Anniversary.**

On 7 February 1919

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years together!



## Birthdays

**Val Saunders**  
**Special Happy Birthday  
wishes on your 80th**  
on 13th February  
Love from Pete  
& family xxx

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
**GARETH  
JAMIESON**  
ON 8TH FEBRUARY  
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all your friends at The GEM

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## The Barry and District Men's Skittles League

HERE are the  
latest results from  
the Barry and  
District Mens  
Skittles League.  
Division 1:  
Merrymen 291 (A  
Buckland 31), 49ers  
298 (TH Anderson 30).  
League: 49ers 26,  
Geest 18, Posties 14,  
Willie Wombles 13, Blue  
Monkey 12, Bunker Boys  
12, Merrymen 12, Billy  
Whizz 11, KP Rejects 10,  
British Rail 9, Cannon  
Balls 8, Sea View 7.  
Division 2: Ex  
Servicemen 243 (R  
Harrington 27), H  
Bells 259 (R Wills 28).  
League: Park Lads 22,  
H Bells 16, Cavaliers  
16, Mighty Dockers 16,  
Hairly Lemons 14, Barry  
Park B 12, Ex Servicemen  
12, Tynny Lads 11,  
Colcoat Boys 10, BP  
Breakaways 10, Exiles  
9, Witchill Poachers 8.  
Division 3: League:  
Park Rangers 18, Billy  
Bluebirds 16, Witchill  
Nomads 15, Cocoa Nuts  
14, Glenbrook Flyers  
12, Royalists 11, Castle  
Boys 10, Abercete 10,  
Alternatives 10, CUD  
10, Master Mariner 0.  
Allform Cup quarter  
finals: Exiles beat Blue  
Monkey, Mighty Dockers  
beat Posties, 49ers beat  
BP Breakaways, Bunker  
Boys beat Park Lads.  
View all results and  
league tables at [www.barryleagues.co.uk](http://www.barryleagues.co.uk).  
JW

## The Barry and District Leagues tables and results

HERE are the lat-  
est results from the  
Barry and District  
Club Leagues:  
Crib Division 1:  
Wyndham Cons 6,  
Rhoose Social 9.  
League Table: Rhoose  
Social 118, Wyndham  
Cons 114, Liberals 113,  
West End Runaways  
112, Cadoxton Cons 111,  
West End 104, Moors  
Boys 93.  
Knockout Cup semi-  
finals: Rhoose  
Social 8, West End  
Runaways 7; West End  
9, Liberals 6.  
Skittles Division 1:  
Knockout Cup quarter-  
finals: Rhoose Social  
C beat West End C;  
Rhoose Social B beat  
West End D.  
Snooker Division 1:  
West End C 3, Harbour  
B 2; Cadoxton Cons Z 3,  
Harbour B 2; Cadoxton  
Wildcats 2, Rhoose  
Social B 3; Penarth Cons  
A 4, Cadoxton Cons B  
1; Savoy A 3, Wyndham  
Cons A 2; Liberators 3,  
Market Street B 2.  
League Table: West  
End C 59, Savoy A 55,  
Harbour B 52, Wyndham  
Cons A 49, Cadoxton  
Cons Z 46, Cadoxton  
Cons B 41, Penarth Cons  
A 34, Cadoxton Wildcats  
30, Rhoose Social B 27,  
\*Liberators 25, Market  
Street B 23.  
Snooker Division 2:  
West End B 1, Savoy  
B 4; Penarth Cons B 3,  
West End A 2; Rhoose  
Social C 2, Services  
Social B 3; Market Street  
C 3, Wyndham Cons D  
2; Harbour A 1, Sully  
Sports A 4.  
League Table: Savoy  
B 55, Rhoose Social  
C 52, Cadoxton Cons  
A 50, Penarth Cons B  
50, Market Street C 44,  
\*Services Social B 44,  
Wyndham Cons D 42,  
Harbour A 41, West End  
A 36, Sully Sports A 33,  
West End B 24.  
\* = Points Deducted  
View all results and  
league tables at [www.barryleagues.co.uk](http://www.barryleagues.co.uk)  
JW

## Barrivale Bridge Club results

THE results for the  
Barrivale Bridge  
Club session on  
January 29 were as  
follows:  
First, Jane Brook and  
Hilary Morgan 57.29  
per cent; second, Jenny  
Vaughan and Peter  
Millar 56.60 per cent;  
third, Huw and Celia  
Thomas 56.25 per cent.  
The handicap winners  
were Linda Houston and  
Pat Price.  
New members at  
the club are always  
welcomed and a partner  
may be arranged, if  
required. If you would  
like to join us, call  
any of the following

numbers: 01446 418380  
or 01446 733425 or  
01446 735592 or call at  
the Pioneer Hall, Beryl  
Road, Barry at 7pm on  
Tuesday evenings.  
Alternatively, players  
inexperienced or new to  
bridge may attend the  
following sessions:  
Friday 10am (doors  
open 9.45am) at the  
Pioneer Hall for lessons  
and assisted play;  
Thursday afternoons  
for assisted play from  
1.30pm-4pm at the Barry  
Uniting Church, Heol  
y Llongau, Barry CF63  
4AP.  
Linda Houston

## Barry Town United star heads north

BARRY Town United's versatile  
Macauley Southam-Hales has earned  
a move to Football League club  
Fleetwood Town managed by Joey  
Barton.

A Barry Town spokesman said on Sunday:  
"After attracting interest from a number of  
other professional clubs, we can confirm that  
Macauley Southam-Hales has completed a  
medical and signed with Fleetwood Town of  
EFL League One for an undisclosed fee."  
The deal includes a loan return to Barry  
for the rest of the 2018-19 season subject to  
international clearance.



## Gambits fall to second defeat of the season

THERE were three games  
scheduled for the Barry Chess  
Club this week, all away games.  
In division 1 the Bosons were due  
to play the Pontypridd Barbarians on  
Thursday. This game was postponed  
due to the inclement weather. However  
other games played in the week saw the  
Bosons drop to the bottom of the table.  
Only a half point separates the  
bottom three teams, and with the  
Pawns in sixth place only 2.5 points  
ahead of us, there is all to play for,  
and the relegation fight should go  
to the final round of matches.  
In division three the Quarks  
travelled to Caerphilly to play the  
Rooks. Just as in the reverse fixture  
we lost by 3 - 2, Tom Cooke and  
Mike O'Leary winning their matches.  
Mike's win takes him to the top of  
the player performance table above  
Ieuan Thomas and Martin Ricketts.  
In division 4 the Gambits played  
fellow promotion rivals Pentryrch C. The  
C team played a stronger team than  
usual and on board one for Pentryrch  
was Will Harwood. This is only his  
second match of the season; co-inci-  
dentally both of his games have been  
against the Gambits and Chris Green.  
For three of us this was our second  
match in Pentryrch this year. This time  
our luck ran out and with only one draw  
for all our efforts we returned home  
losing 4.5 - 0.5. The Gambits drop to  
second in the table some 3.5 points  
behind Pentryrch, who seem destined  
for the divisional title. We still have  
the challenge of the Pontypridd Goshawks  
to come and surely it is between  
these two for the runner-up spot.  
The Quarks have 24 points from 10  
games and lie in sixth place some 10  
points above bottom team Bridgend C,  
although we have played one more game.  
The Barry Chess Club meets at  
7:30pm each Monday at the West End  
Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry CF62  
6QY. The club is open to players of  
all standards; whether you are inter-  
ested in playing competitive chess or  
just the occasional friendly games.  
New players are very welcome to just  
turn up on the night but if you contact  
one of the club members through the  
website we can explain what is happen-  
ing on the night you have in mind, and  
arrange for someone to greet you on  
your arrival. For more details visit our  
website at [barrychessclub.yolasite.com](http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com)  
Phil Jones

## Evan lands a Taunton winner

EVAN Williams had good reason to be  
pleased that Monday's Taunton National  
Hunt fixture passed a 7.30am inspection.

His five-year-old *Bold Plan*, ridden by  
Pembrokeshire's Sean Bowen, landed the opening  
Racing To School Novices' Hurdle (Division 1) by  
one-and-a-quarter lengths from the odds-on favourite  
*Southfield Stone*, ridden by Lorcan Williams,  
who like Bowen hails from west Wales.

Brian Lee

## Bridge results

THE results  
for the Vale of  
Glamorgan Bridge  
Club for January  
4 are as follows:  
First, Debbie and  
Simon Richards, 60.80  
per cent; second, Mike  
Best and Kevin Maddox,  
59.44 per cent; third,  
Phil Felman and Tony  
Disney, 58.15 per cent.  
LE

## Barry Beavers back in the 'swim' of things

BARRY Beavers Disabled Swimming  
Club resumed on January 12 after the  
Christmas break, starting at an earlier  
time of 3.30pm.

The session went past quickly and there were  
some new faces.  
On January 23, some members went to the Vale  
Volunteering event at the Memo Arts Centre, and on  
January 30 three members of the club went to Barry  
Football Club to receive a cheque of £150 for the  
club from the Barry Round Table. This was money  
raised from the Santa Sleigh collection.

Currently, Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming  
Club need a voluntary fundraiser. To find out more  
about this position, and the club itself, contact Pat  
Finch 01446 747683/07517 121729.

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# A victory under pressure for Barry seconds

**BARRY RFC seconds returned to action following a weekend of inactivity with Caerau Ely their visitors.**

With Glyn Pirso in sole charge for the weekend, he welcomed back Chris Deyes and Rhys O'Sullivan into the starting line up for some much needed experience, while new signing Ashton Allen awaited his debut from the replacements bench.

With a more settled side, Barry tried to start the match with a pace that would put their opponents in the back foot.

However, it was Caerau who came out on top in the early exchanges, and it was only a bit of away indiscipline that cost them a chance in opening the scoring when they were camped on top of Barry's line.

Undeterred, Caerau continued probing and this time they gathered more patience and composure in their attack, resulting in a successful drop goal opportunity to give them the early advantage.

Rattled, Barry rallied and utilised the direct running of Dave Provis and Dominic Busuttil in midfield, instantly causing havoc in the Caerau defence.

Opportunities were created but were thwarted by a combination of excellent last ditch tackling and the ball not sticking to hands.

Eventually, the pressure had to tell. Barry turned the screw in the scrum with the front row of O'Sullivan, Bowditch and Brooke dominant. The resultant territory and possession saw Busuttil crash through to score. Richie O'Sullivan was successful with the conversion to give Barry the lead.

Barry now had the momentum with them and fully capitalised. With the Caerau defence on the back foot once again, it was down to Luke Hewitson to finish off a fine move to score his second try of the season. O'Sullivan made no mistake from the tee to increase Barry's lead.

If Barry were expecting an easy ride from then on they were gravely mistaken. Caerau came back either side of the interval to continue to question the Barry defence in both tight and out wide.

Having reduced the deficit with an unconverted try, Caerau looked to complete their comeback but the pressure was relieved when scrum-half Tom Cotter scored his first try for the club to give Barry some breathing space. The extras were missed.

Caerau came back again with another unconverted try to bring the game back within one score, but Barry held out for their first win of the calendar year, the final score 19-11.

This weekend there are no games at Reservoir Field due to Six Nations, but all games will be screened live at the clubhouse.

**Squad:** Ryan; Mephram, Provis, Busuttil, Hewitson; Rich O'Sullivan, Cotter; Rhys O'Sullivan, Bowditch, Brooke; Hall, Deyes; Jones, Morris, Rolfe.

**Replacements:** Ring, Corson, Allen, M O'Sullivan.

Last Saturday's game at Aberdare was postponed for the first team due to the weather and will be rescheduled for later in the season. Barry's next league fixture will be on February 16 when they travel to play Llantwit Fardre, who currently sit above Barry in the table.

A coach will leave the club at 12.30pm, ready for the kick off at 2.30pm.

On the day Wales face England, February 23, the club will be providing free curry during the afternoon, all are welcome to join us on the day.

The lottery rolls over again this week to £3,650 after last week's numbers of 02, 07, 09 and 24 failed to produce a winner. One ticket matched three numbers to win £10.

KC/AJ



**JUDITH DUTTON** was on hand to capture the action as Barry RFC seconds faced Caerau Ely seconds on Saturday.

## Rain doesn't stop St Mary's senior section

**LAST week at St Mary's Golf Club, the Senior Section's first competition was scheduled to be a Greensome foursomes; the weather, however, had other ideas.**

With just a dozen of the more intrepid members prepared to venture out in the early morning light rain, and with the promise of it becoming heavier through the morning, the format was quickly switched to an individual Stableford competition to be played over just 12 holes.

In spite of the very wet and muddy conditions, some

good scores were returned.

Roger Hatton continued his run of good new year form by making birdie at the difficult par four 17th hole, a feat matched by Trefor Jones. The third birdie of the day was scored by former captain, Hugh Williams on the 155 yard par three 18th.

At the close of play, three players were tied for second place on the equivalent par score of 24 points for 12 holes, but following a back four count back, Trefor Jones was declared runner-up. After a fine round, Hatton's brother Phil claimed the victory with 26 points.

NL

## Horse dies after Sandown Park hurdle race

**IT was a sad day at Sandown Park last Saturday for Mr and Mrs William Rucker, the owners of De Dollar Man, trained in the Vale by Evan Williams.**

The eight-year-old gelding was mortally injured when contesting the 888Sport Contenders Hurdle Race won by the long-odds on favourite Buteur D'Air.

A winner over hurdles and fences, a National Hunt flat race and a point-to-point, De Dollar Man, who was ridden by Grand National winning jockey Leighton Aspell, will be sadly

missed at Williams' Llancarfan yard.

The 888Sport Heroes Handicap Hurdle, worth £56,270 to the winner went to the Peter Bowen-trained Lord Napier who, ridden by his son Sean Bowen, won by nine lengths from Coole Cody at odds of 8-1.

Lord Napier was the second leg of a double for his rider, who also won the opening 888Sport Novices' Hurdle on Winston C, a 3-1 chance.

Brian Lee

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16 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 5dr DSG 4WD, VW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 21k, choice

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16 66 VW TOURAREO 3.0 TDI V6 BluemotionTech 262 R-Line 5dr Automatic 4WD, VW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, pan roof, 18k, black, full leather

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16 66 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, 17k, silver, full leather

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17 67 BMW 330 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, 17k, silver, full leather

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16 66 BMW X4 2.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, 19" alloys, 10k, white, full leather

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14 14 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD Summit 5dr Automatic 4x4, pan roof, sat nav, white, 46k, full leather

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15 65 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D ALL4 5dr, chilli + tlc pack, media pack – sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather

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16 66 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 3dr (306bhp), Audi warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, xenons, 23k, white, half-leather

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15 15 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 3dr S-Tronic, sat nav, pdc, Blue-tooth, heated seats, red, full leather.....**£19995**

16 66 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 5dr, Audi warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, heated seats, full leather, choice of manual or s-tronic from.....**£24495**

16 66 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 3dr (306bhp), Audi warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, xenons, 23k, white, half-leather.....**£23995**

15 65 AUDI Q3 2.0 TDI Quattro S-Line Plus 5dr S-Tronic, sat nav, dab, heated seats, 33k, grey, half-leather.....**£19995**

17 67 BMW 330 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, 17k, silver, full leather.....**£22495**

16 66 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2019, M sport + pack, LED headlights, sat nav, 19" alloys, 20k, grey, full leather.....**£22995**

16 66 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport Estate Automatic, BMW warranty Jan 2020, M sport + pack, Harman kardon, 19" alloys, sat nav, 22k, met grey, full leather.....**£24995**

16 66 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport Estate, BMW warranty Dec 2019, pan roof, pro media – sat nav, heated seats, 20k, champagne quartz, full leather.....**£26995**

16 67 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport GT 5dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 7k, silver, full leather.....**£23995**

17 17 BMW 420 I XDrive Sport Gran Coupe 5dr Automatic, BMW warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 25k, grey, full leather.....**£20995**

15 65 BMW 420 D XDrive Luxury 2dr Coupe Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, 39k, grey, full leather.....**£17995**

15 65 BMW 435 D M Sport XDrive Coupe Automatic, M sport plus pack, head up display, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, grey, full leather.....**£24995**

15 65 BMW X1 2.0 D XDrive X-Line 5dr, sat nav plus, electric memory seats, 10k, black, full leather.....**£19995**

16 16 BMW X1 2.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty June 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 24k, met white.....**£19995**

16 66 BMW X1 XDrive D M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 18" alloys, 21k, blue.....**£20495**

16 66 BMW X4 2.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, 19" alloys, 10k, white, full leather.....**£25995**

13 13 BMW X5 4.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic, pan roof, media pack – sat nav, 20" alloys, heated seats, black, full leather.....**£19995**

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18 68 KIA SORENTO 2.2 CRDI GT-Line S 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Kia warranty Sept 2025, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, only 527 miles, grey, full leather.....**£33995**

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13 63 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D ALL4 5dr, Privacy glass, Bluetooth, aux, usb, silver.....**£9995**

15 65 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D ALL4 5dr, chilli + tlc pack, media pack – sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather.....**£12995**

15 15 MINI COUNTRYMAN 2.0 D Cooper Business Edition ALL4 5dr Automatic, sat nav, white.....**£13495**

14 14 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 DIG-T Nismo 5dr 4WD CVT Automatic (197bhp), sat nav, reverse camera, Bluetooth, 18" alloys, white.....**£10495**

12 62 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr 4WD, pan roof, sat nav, bose, heated seats, black.....**£9495**

15 15 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr 4WD, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, white, full leather.....**£11995**

16 16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI N-Connecta 5dr 4WD, Nissan warranty April 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 16k, black.....**£14495**

15 65 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr 4WD (7-Seater), sat nav, reverse camera, met green, full leather.....**£15795**

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16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI BlueMotionTech R 5dr 4WD (300bhp), VW warranty June 2019, xenons, cruise, 15k, choice.....**£20995**

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16 66 VW TOURAREO 3.0 TDI V6 BluemotionTech 262 R-Line 5dr Automatic 4WD, VW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, pan roof, 18k, black, full leather.....**£26995**

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16 16 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty March 2019, 19" alloys, pro media, M sport + pack, grey, full leather .....£15795  
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15 65 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Zetec S Estate, sat nav, appearance pack, 29k, grey .....£11495  
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16 66 FORD KUGA 1.5 T EcoBoost ST-Line 5dr, Ford warranty Jan 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 23k, white, half-leather .....£16995  
14 64 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Titanium X Sport 5dr, sat nav, appearance pack, pan roof, reverse camera, white, full leather .....£12495  
15 15 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Ecotonic Titanium 5dr, sat nav, cruise, dab, aux, choice .....£8495  
14 64 HYUNDAI I30 1.6 CRDI BlueDrive Active 5dr, Cruise, Bluetooth, PDC, black .....£6495  
17 17 HONDA CIVIC 1.5 VTEC Sport 5dr (180bhp), Honda warranty April 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 23k, blue .....£15995  
15 65 JAGUAR XE 2.0 D 180 R-Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, cruise, heated seats, dab, privacy glass, 25k, black, full leather .....£16995  
16 66 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D (180) R-Sport 4dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 18" alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather .....£18995  
14 64 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.0 CRD Limited 5dr, sat nav, dab, white, full leather .....£10995  
14 64 KIA CARENS 1.7 CRDI 3 5dr (7-Seater), Kia warranty Oct 2021, pan

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16 66 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI 2 4dr, Kia warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, silver .....£12995  
15 65 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 GDI ISG 2 5dr, Kia warranty Oct 2022, pan roof, cruise, aux, usb, 25k, white .....£11995  
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16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI ISG 3 5dr New Model, Kia warranty May 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 18k, black, full leather .....£16295  
17 67 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 3 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty Sept 2024, pan roof, sat nav, 19" alloys, reverse camera, 19k, blue, full leather .....£18495  
15 15 MAZDA 3 2.2 D Sport Nav 5dr, heated seats, sat nav, 18" alloys, black, full leather .....£9495  
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13 **SKODA Rapid 1.2 TSi Elegance** In met grey, 51,000 miles, ideal family hatch .....**£6,295**

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# Barry Town United suffer bad start to Phase Two of JD Welsh Premier League

**BARRY Town United's make-or-break Phase Two got off to a rocky start on Saturday, as the surprise JD Welsh Premier League title contenders were beaten 2-0 by Caernarfon Town at The Oval.**

For 66 minutes, nothing could split the sides, until goals from Sion Bradley and Nathan Craig unseated Barry at the top of the table, leaving victorious Connah's Quay Nomads to swoop in.

Nomads had trailed 1-0 at Newtown, only to rally to a 2-1 win and with The New Saints' visit to Bala falling victim to the weather, Andy Morrison's men now lead the league by a single point.

With Macauley Southam-Hales ruled out in the midst of transfer uncertainty and Chris Hugh on international duty with Wales' futsal squad in Moldova, manager

Gavin Chesterfield gave a Barry debut to Rhys Abbruzzese on Saturday, with long-serving Paul Morgan also coming in at full-back.

Despite the enforced changes, Barry had a lot to offer in the first half at The Oval, creating some strong opportunities against a Canaries side they had edged by both home and away in Phase One.

Picking up where he left off before the winter break, Mo Touray showed real vision early to let in Kayne McLaggon, lifting the ball over the Caernarfon defence to gift-wrap his team mate a chance.

Despite the high pace drawing him wide, McLaggon did well to pull the ball back inside, yet his low attempt bounced and bobbled just beyond the frame of the goal, keeping the score at 0-0.

Then, after Morgan did extremely well to frustrate and deny danger man Danny

Brookwell, the talismanic Touray took aim from distance, his spectacular drive leaving goalkeeper Alex Ramsay a helpless spectator, only to rebound off the advertising hoardings, a warning shot gone awry.

In what was the chance of the half, McLaggon rounded Ramsay after quality build-up play from both Clayton Green and Jordan Cotterill had smoothed the striker's path towards goal.

Unfortunately for Barry, McLaggon's neat touch to bypass the Caernarfon goalkeeper left the league's player of the month for December with too much to do and too great an angle to score.

After the break, the visitors threatened again, with Green floating a fine free-kick to an unmarked Luke Cooper, only for the marauding Barry centre-back to see his snap-shot saved at the near post.

Worryingly though, the

home side were starting to up their game with loan signing Leo Smith, a transfer window arrival from Wrexham, forcing a flying save out of Barry goalkeeper Mike Lewis.

Tails up, the Canaries would soon be ahead, with some real midfield wizardry from Danny Thomas setting up team-mate Sion Bradley, who then lashed a right-footed shot past Lewis from eight yards.

Unlike their previous visit to the Oval in late September, Barry now found themselves having to overturn a goal deficit, yet the hosts were far from through and looked to secure a killer second.

It came a little more than 10 minutes later when some sublime play from the skilful Thomas teed up Nathan Craig to power home; his pile-driving shot rippling the net to leave Barry adrift at 2-0.

A trio of substitutions followed in short order

with Drew Fahiya, Tom Fry and Troy Greening relieving captain Cotterill, McLaggon and Jonathan Hood in what would be a final roll of the dice.

However, Barry were unable to claw their way back, leaving the Oval pointless for the first time this season and suffering a score-line repeat of their 2-0 defeat in the JD Welsh Cup last campaign.

For manager Chesterfield, the task now is to rouse the troops, with Saturday's big game with Bala Town at Jenner Park offering an opportunity to continue the club's outstanding record on home turf.

Kick-off against the 2017 JD Welsh Cup winners is at 7.30pm and with Colin Caton's Lakesiders one of only two visiting teams to win at the ground in all of 2018, a tough but exciting test awaits.

AC

# Dinas Powys hold on against Llantrisant's last-ditch fightback

**THE common was bathed in sunshine as Dinas Powys RFC and Llantrisant ran onto the pitch on an afternoon that appeared perfect for playing rugby.**

The visitors dominated possession and territory and it was against the run of play that the Villagers opened the scoring.

A loose attacking kick was gathered by home fullback Ben White in his own 22 metre area; he feigned to do the predictable and kick to clear his line before running to halfway before feeding right wing Jack Maynard, who raced to score in the corner.

The home side, boosted by this score, pressed for more tries and within 10 minutes, following a passage of play that saw the ball moved from side to side of the pitch by the three quarters, came a smart try from debutant Carwyn Jones, who, carrying the ball in two hands, crossed untouched for a try that was converted by White.

The visitors struck back just before half-time with a smart try from their centre following fine back play. The conversion was added and Dinas Powys led 10-7 at half-time.

The restart kick for the second half was caught by number 8 Josh Dunleavy. He fed Ben White, who ran over halfway before feeding

skipper Tom Baister; the powerful

hooker showed fine speed and good awareness to feed replacement flanker Finn Davies, who crossed for the Villagers' third try and, with White adding the difficult conversion, the lead progressed to 17-7.

The home side added to their lead following a quick lineout throw by Baister to White, who once again made good distance before finding the ever-present Finn Davies. He passed to Maynard who crossed in the right corner for his second try of the afternoon.

White again was accurate with the conversion and the lead extended to 24-7.

The visitors responded immediately with a converted try of their own following a well-constructed rolling maul. The home lead of 10 points was further reduced as the relegation-threatened Llantrisant side added a further try and advanced to within five points of the Villagers as the score stood at 24-19.

The final nerve-jangling minutes of the contest saw the Villagers defend resolutely to gain a hard-fought victory and five league points, while the 'black army' from Llantrisant left with what may prove to be an invaluable point in their quest to avoid relegation.

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## Queen of the Castle

Lucy Sellick is the only female Head Greenkeeper in Wales arriving at Wenvoe Castle nine months ago. She brought with her, from Saltford Golf Club Bristol where she was Deputy Course Manager, a wealth of experience of course management, course development, team leading and her own individual skills. Lucy and her team have used this experience to enhance the golf course and its surroundings. Leading by example Lucy soon fitted in with the green staff, professional and clubhouse staff with ease. However, the course is her main priority and when she arrived, in May last year, she hit the ground running and began the transformation of the course with its manicuring of fairways and greens. She and her staff have worked very hard since the end of the season rebuilding tees and bunkers on the course and members are very excited to see the vision she has of how she sees the course will develop over the coming season and the next few years. One objective is to speed up the greens. Lucy's aims are to provide an exceptional, year round golfing experience for players of all abilities, playing on main greens all year round and for the club to leave a lasting and positive impression that satisfies both members and visitors. WATCH THIS SPACE!!

Members and visitors receive a very warm welcome at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club - a traditional members club. It is recognised as a championship quality course with the South Wales Boys and the County Seniors Championships being held here this year.

Wenvoe Castle welcomes Visitors paying green fees Societies (8 or more players) and Corporate Golf Days. Please contact us through our website to book on line or find out more information. www.wenvoecastleclub.co.uk or telephone the Secretary 029 20594371 (Option 2) Social Membership is also available which entitles the member to attend any major function and use the Clubhouse facilities. Non members are also welcome to have lunch, book Weddings, Private Parties and Funeral Teas. We shall soon be introducing a new Spring Bar Menu.





# A tale of the unexpected as Wales conjure up a startling win in France

Match report by Philip Irwin



Josh Adams, about to put Tomos Williams in for his try.

**A**T the end of this remarkable game in the Stade de France, Welsh centre Jonathan Davies approached his former club-mate at Clermont Auvergne, Camille Lopez, and it's a pretty fair bet that the first line was: "What the hell just happened?"

Either player could have said it, and I'm not sure whether they converse in French or English, but they must have shared a sense of bemusement after a plot line that could have been devised by Roald Dahl.

At the end of the first half Wales looked shell-shocked. They had spilled a hatful of passes, and had even contrived to turn a penalty in their favour with 20 seconds on the clock into a scoring opportunity for France, which Lopez had taken with a 30-metre drop goal.

It was 16 - 0 to France. At half time all Wales fans could do was repeat, in hope: "Wales need to score first or it's all over."

The first half confounded all expectations. France had picked a big pack, with Morgan Parra to chip away at Wales behind them, so 15-man rugby was unlikely. To confirm that expectation, the heavens opened and it went on to rain for the 80 minutes.

However, France had other ideas. Among their new caps were the sons of two French internationals, centre Romain Ntamack (son of wing/full back Emile) and wing Damian Penaud (son of fly half Alain), and they intended to use them.

Defying the down-pour, they moved the ball back and fore across the field, with open side Arthur Iturria particularly prominent

and Wales were forced to defend for much of the first half.

In contrast, the Welsh treated the ball as if it were a bar of soap, spilling it in and out of contact far too many times.

It had started well for Wales. They put France under pressure straight away, but Louis Picamoles gave notice of what was to come by making ground when it mattered. Then, the massive French pack was penalised at the first scrum after three minutes, giving Wales a period of possession.

This ended when Wales won a line out and, from an attacking position, the pass from Gareth Anscombe to Hadleigh Parkes went astray. France seized the ball and went through several phases with backs and forwards combining brilliantly.

Finally, they moved the ball wide and found Picamoles on the wing about 15 metres out, and he burst through two tacklers to score. Parra, uncharacteristically, missed the conversion.

Three minutes later he failed with a straight-forward penalty from 35 metres, and four minutes later, Anscombe missed from a similar distance.

The alarm bells were not ringing too loudly for Wales and this point, and things looked good two minutes later when flanker Josh Navidi stole the ball and Wales mounted an attack. It didn't seem to be too dangerous, but full back Liam Williams timed his entry into the line perfectly and cut through.

He had Jonathan Davies outside but, as a defender was poised to tackle the centre, his decision to go it alone was probably correct. It certainly looked that way as his momentum took him over the line.

Anscombe was keen to take the conversion, but referee Wayne Barnes was alerted by



ABOVE: Wales thought they had taken the lead in the first half, but Liam Williams was ruled to have nudged the ball forward as he crossed the line. (All photographs by the Huw Evans Agency).

the crowd's reaction to the replay, sent it to the TMO Rowan Kitt, and the answer was that he had fumbled it slightly as he crossed the line.

Wales still had the chance to put pressure on France at the five-metre scrum, but they gave away two successive penalties.

Soon after, starting from a Penaud break, France put together a slick handling move and Iturria, in the process of being tackled, dangled the ball out just enough to tempt Wales wing George North, before slipping a great back-of-the-hand pass to Yoann Huget, who raced over in the corner.

Parra missed the conversion, so it was 10 - 0 to France.

Liam Williams was looking Wales' most dangerous attacker and he created a chance when he took a great catch (aided by a Josh Adams' block that the referee missed) and cut through once again. For a split second, scrum half Tomos Williams was in support and looked as if he had a clear run in, but Williams did not spot him.

Two minutes later, Anscombe had another kickable penalty, but this went astray, and France were back on the attack. Penaud chipped through and Liam Williams was hounded by full back Maxime Medard, who took him over the line. Wales were penalised in front of their posts and, surprisingly, Parra was not given the chance to get back in the groove, Lopez kicking the three points instead.

Another French attack, with Huget prominent again, led to Wales conceding another penalty. France declined, opting to kick into the



ABOVE: Tomos Williams goes over for a second half try, after being there to take a scoring pass from Josh Adams, who had spotted a gap in the French fringe defence.

corner. Wales did, at least, defend the driving maul against the huge French forwards, and match summariser Paul O'Connell described it as a "big moment".

You were not wrong there, Paul.

There was time, however, for Gareth Anscombe to miss touch with a penalty, and France moved the ball close enough to the Welsh line for Lopez to drop a goal and make it 16 - 0.

Warren Gatland's half time talk must have said more than "stop dropping the ball" - otherwise we would all be coaches - but Wales did stop dropping the ball.

A steady spell of possession early in the second half was not looking particularly dangerous, until wing Josh Adams came inside looking for work, and spotted the giant lock, Paul Willemse in the line, defending close to the ruck.

Adams backed his pace, broke the tackle and was in the clear

with only Medard in front of him, and Tomos Williams was in support again, this time getting the pass and crossing for Wales' first score. Anscombe converted for 16 - 7.

On 52 minutes, things got better for Wales. Parkes' kick through left Huget hoping the ball would cross the line so he could touch down, but it cruelly jumped back at him, slipping through his hands and giving George North the try.

Anscombe converted to make it 16 - 14, but that was his last contribution at outside-half, as he and Tomos Williams were taken off, substituted by Gareth Davies and Dan Biggar.

It looked even better for Wales on 55 minutes, as Jonathan Davies made a break. Biggar took it on and No 8 Ross Moriarty burst through - only for the try to be cancelled out when Alun Wyn Jones was ruled to have taken out Picamoles, as the French No 8 attempted a tackle.



George North races away to score the winning try for Wales after intercepting an 'ambitious' French pass.

Two minutes later, however, Biggar kicked a 30-metre penalty to give Wales the lead at 17 - 16.

On 66 minutes, Anscombe returned as a blood replacement when Liam Williams and Picamoles clashed heads, accidentally, and Williams came off worse.

On 70 minutes, openside flanker Justin Tipuric, who was everywhere, charged down a drop goal attempt by Lopez, but the ball spun away to French replacement Felix Lambey, who almost made the line. At the resultant scrum, Wales were penalised and Lopez made it 19 - 17 to France.

France took heart from this and started to look dangerous again. They were still intent on moving the ball wide, and it proved their undoing.

Getting the ball in a good attacking position on Wales' 22, they managed to throw three poor passes in a row as the ball crawled along

the line.

The third (and fatal) pass proved that old adage that tight five forwards are not always an asset in the three-quarter line. Second row Sebastian Vahaamahina's effort was in the air for as long as it takes to pronounce his name, with Huget transfixed as it came to him in slow motion.

Unfortunately for France, George North was moving in real time and he intercepted and was gone, with no real pursuer as he raced 70 metres to go over under the posts. Biggar converted to make it 24 - 19.

The final minutes were not easy watching for Welsh fans. France pressed, but did not really threaten to score. A line out 12 metres out led to three promising phases before they knocked on, and later France had a scrum near the Welsh line, but did not push straight and were penalised.

At the last, France put together 13 phases,

without making much yardage, and eventually the ball was spilled and Gareth Davies gratefully booted it into touch.

It was a win, but one that left a lot of questions hanging in the air.

This French side, if given a vote of confidence, could really trouble Ireland and England, but the French are not noted for settled team selection.

From the Welsh point of view, Warren Gatland's tongue-in-cheek remark about how "Wales have forgotten how to lose" was one for the fans, but I suspect the team will asked for a lot more focus and purpose as the Six Nations progress.

NOTE: A line I wish I had written. In the first half, I noted 'The ball is greasy for Wales but dry for France'. Accurate but not a phrase worth repeating, so hats off to Will Kelleher of the Daily Mail who came up with "The ball seemed to be covered in Vaseline for Wales, and Velcro for France".